



## Taking the tribal backwaters – From Guiyang to Guilin



Date/Day	Morning	Afternoon	Hotel
Day 1	Take an hour's drive from <b>Guiyang</b> to the <b>Da Mo Chong Valley</b> 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 late lunch in the <b>Han village of Dazhai</b> , famous for the production of paper money which is burnt during ancestral worship. There might be an opportunity to witness the entire process.	<b>Novotel 4* B,L,D</b>
Day 2	Drive 1 ½ hours west of the city to <b>Jichang</b> , 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 (1368-1644). Watch a ground opera brought in by the troops.	Enjoy a farmers' lunch in <b>Jichang</b> 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.	<b>Novotel 4* B,L</b>
Day 3	This morning head out to <b>Chong 'an</b> , 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 <b>Wangba Ge Jia</b> 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.	Enjoy a famers' lunch in <b>Shiqiao Miao village</b> , which remains one of the few places to continue the ancient art of paper production which can be traced 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 today for brightly coloured lanterns. Conclude the afternoon at <b>Qingman Middle Skirt or Silk Felt Embroidery Miao village</b> , where the spectacular embroidery skill of the village girls is famed throughout the region. Overnight in Kaili.	<b>Kaili Tenglong Hotel 4* B,L,D</b>



Date/Day	Morning	Afternoon	Hotel
<b>Day 4</b>	Take a short 30-minute drive to <b><u>Baiyan Village</u></b> and begin the hike to <b><u>Taoyao Village</u></b> 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.	Continue on a back road to <b><u>Leishan</u></b> where you will stop for lunch. About 10 minutes further on lies the village of <b><u>Paika</u></b> , which is known for production of the Lusheng Musical bamboo pipe, a hand-crafted reed instrument which can sometimes be over three metres in length. The instrument plays an important part in Miao daily life. Continue to visit some of the more interesting villages in the area, including the <b><u>Datang (Short Skirt Miao Village)</u></b> . Enjoy a performance by the short skirt Miao before heading south for about three hours to visit some of the less spoilt <b><u>Shui villages</u></b> . Overnight stop in <b><u>Rongjiang</u></b> .	<i>Dongxiangmi Grand Hotel Rongjiang 3* B,L,D</i>
<b>Day 5</b>	This morning pass through some of the more interesting <b><u>Dali Dong Villages</u></b> , 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. Return to Rongjiang via <b><u>Sanbao Dong Village</u></b> which is famed for its ancient drum towers that according to Dong legend, were built in accordance with the “King of Cedar”.	Continue on to <b><u>Biasha</u></b> . 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( 1644-1911). Overnight in <b><u>Conjiang</u></b> ,	<i>Best Local Hotel 3* B,L,D</i>



Date/Day	Morning	Afternoon	Hotel
Day 6	Spend the day exploring some more fabulous Dong villages in the Congjiang region. Begin with <b><u>Zhanli Dong Village</u></b> , 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.	Visit <b><u>Huang Gang Dong Village</u></b> , and <b><u>Yintan Dong Village</u></b> where Dong ancestors first settled when they migrated westwards to Guizhou thousands of years ago. Continue to <b><u>Zhaoxing</u></b> one of the largest Dong villages in Guizhou this evening.	<b><i>Zhaoxing Indigo Hotel B,L</i></b>
Day 7	Enjoy a short hike from <b><u>Zhaoxing</u></b> to <b><u>Tang'an Dong Village</u></b> , 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 <b><u>Tang'an Dong Ethnic Eco-museum</u></b> founded in 1995 by China and Norway. Continue for an hour to <b><u>Diping Village</u></b> where you will have lunch. Visit the <b><u>Diping Feng Yu Bridge</u></b> , which in 2006 was flushed away by a giant flood, though much of the original bridge was recovered.	Continue onto <b><u>Sanjiang</u></b> , and visit the <b><u>Chengyang Wind and Rain Bridge</u></b> , 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.	<b><i>Best Local Hotel 3* B,L,D</i></b>
Day 8	Enjoy a three-hour scenic drive to the <b><u>Dragons Backbone terraces (Longji Titian)</u></b> .	Visit the mountain village of <b><u>Longji</u></b> . Rice Terraces first appeared here in the Yuan Dynasty and were completed in the Qing by the Zhuang minority.	<b><i>LI AN Boutique Hotel B,L</i></b>
Day 9	Enjoy a sunrise over the terraces and a short hike.	Drive to the small town of <b><u>Yangshou</u></b> .	<b><i>The Banyan Tree 5* B,L</i></b>



Date/Day	Morning	Afternoon	Hotel
Day 10	Take a <b>private rafting trip</b> on a tributary of the Li.	Visit a local village, and enter a farmer's house.	<b>The Banyan Tree 5* B,L</b>
Day 11	Day in Yangshuo to enjoy a cycle tour, sightseeing in the surrounding area and last minute shopping.		<b>The Banyan Tree 5* B,L</b>
Day12	Depart Guilin		

**Total Cost**     **USD 5900** 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"> <li>• Services of a good English speaking local guide throughout</li> <li>• All Hotels and rooms as stated for 11 nights including 2 breakfasts. (<b>B</b>)</li> <li>• Meals where specified <b>B,L,D</b></li> <li>• Driver and all land transportation</li> <li>• Entrance fees to all tourist sites</li> <li>• Baggage handling, service charges and gratuities for guides. drivers and hotel staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visa processing fees</li> <li>• International Flights to and from China</li> <li>• Travel insurance</li> <li>• Personal expenses such as excess luggage, alcoholic drinks, telephone, laundry and room service</li> </ul>