



桂林中青旅国际旅游有限公司特色旅游部

China Expedition Tours, A Division of CYTS International Tours Co., Ltd. Guilin

Highlights of Southwest China Photography Tour

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Tour Code: CET-PG06

Length: 13 days and 12 nights

Cities Visited/Stayed: (Beijing), Chengdu, Jiuzhaigou, Tibet, (Beijing)

Highlight Attractions: Zechawa Valley Tour Route, Shuzheng Valley Tour Route, Rize Valley Tour Route, Potala Palace, Jokhang Monastery, Sera Monastery

Experience & Features: Fairyland-like Jiuzhaigou, Mysterious Tibet

You can visit marvelous sceneries in south Sichuan and unveil the mystery of Tibet. A lot of opportunities are offered for you to take amazing photos. How can we miss the heaven-like Jiuzhaigou, there you may be amazed at the splendid water color and wandering for a great time. The highlights of this tour lies on the way to Lhasa in Tibet. Spectacular and fascinating snow-capped Peaks, glaciers, high mountains, wide rivers, unique highland lakes, geothermal springs, vast pastoral areas, magnificent monasteries, and brilliant religious monasteries would run into your camera lens. You are warmly welcomed to start this unforgettable photography tour.

Itinerary

Day 1: Beijing-Chengdu

Upon your arrival in Chengdu, our guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel.

Stay overnight in Chengdu.

Meals:

Day 2: Chengdu-Jiuzhaigou

Today we will drive to Chengdu Shuangliu airport to take a flight to Jiuhuang airport in **[Jiuzhaigou area]**. When you arrive, we **[take a coach to Muni scenic area to see the Zaga Waterfall]**; extraordinary pictures

can be taken from there. It takes about two hours in hiking along that area. Afterwards, we will drive to Jiuzhaigou, and then check in hotel and relax.

Stay overnight at Jiuzhaigou.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 3: Jiuzhaigou

After breakfast, we go to **[Jiuzhaigou Scenic Area]** in which we will visit the **[Shuzheng Valley]**, **[Rize Valley]** and **[Zechawa Valley]**. The Tour Route of Shuzheng Valley is reputed as the epitome of Jiuzhaigou, with mystic and unpredictable independent lakes and lake clusters, as well as colorful beaches, century-old grinders, wood bridges, and powerful waterfalls. Then, we will head for Rize Valley, the most attractive part of Jiuzhaigou. 18 separated amazing lakes and the Nuorilang Waterfall lie in this valley. Zechawa Valley has not only seasonal lakes, but also snow-capped peaks because it enjoys the highest altitude during your Jiuzhaigou tour. The beauty of Jiuzhaigou Scenic Area lies in its lakes, waterfalls, beaches, water currents, snow peaks, and virgin forests, so you just enjoy the time to take photos.

Stay overnight at Jiuzhaigou.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 4: Jiuzhaigou-Chengdu

Today we will drive to the airport for flight to Chengdu city in the morning. Upon arrival, the rest of the day is free on your own to explore this leisure city of China. Later we will take a walk to Tianfu Square to see Chairman Mao's marble statue, go to People's Park, or have a sip of Chinese green tea in the tea house, which are all nice options. The street are full of life will also make you impressed: markets and street hawkers fill the streets dealing in everything you could possibly imagine, from snakes and snails to fortunes and foot scrubs. If you want to know the authentic Sichuan spicy food, you should try a hotpot dinner. Besides, there are some famous souvenirs such as Sichuan brocade, embroidery and lacquer.

Stay overnight in Chengdu.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 5: Chengdu-Linzhi-Bomi

Early this morning we drive to the airport for a flight to Linzhi. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to visit the huge **[cypress forest]**, one cypress tree is more than 2600 years old. Summer time will be the best time to

take photos in **[Nulang forest]**. The boundless forest is too attractive to make you leave. Later we will drive to Bomi.

Stay overnight in Bomi.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 6: Bomi-Ranwu

Early this morning, we will go to the **[Ranwu Lake]**, the headstream of one branch of Yaluzangbu River. Ranwu Lake locates on the way of the Sichuan-Tibet road, surrounded by glaciers and Snow Mountains. Thawed snow makes the body; the water appears different colors in different seasons, ranging from aquamarine to turquoise. There are verdant grassland and plants by the lake. Green grassland and colorful azalea flowers as well as boscage can be seen. On top of the mountain is rolling snow peaks that never melt all the year round. The picturesque scenery will remove your tiredness away. Enjoy a great time to take photos. Later we drive back.

Stay at one hotel in Ranwu.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 7: Ranwu-Midui Glacier-Bomi

Early this morning, we take photos of the sunrise at Ranwu Lake, and then we will drive to **[Midui Glacier]**. There are two waterfalls which are divided by a primitive forest. The Midui village is beautiful and mysterious with its rural scenery. The most beautiful and fabulous scenes of Chuangzang highway lies in along the way from Ranwu to Bomi. We will stop several times halfway for you to take photos.

Stay overnight at Bomi.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 8: Bomi- Namjag Barwa -Bayi Town

This morning, let's drive to the **[Namjag Barwa]** to appreciate this magnificent snowy peak! Namjag Barwa is considered as the Saint Girl Peak of Tibet because it has the highest peak in Lizhi District. You must be shocked by what you have seen here. Then we will drive to Bayi Town.

Stay overnight at Bayi Town.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 9: Bayi Town-Basongcuo-Lhasa

This morning we drive to Lhasa, on the way we will get off and pay a visit to **[Basongcuo Lake]** that has the name of small Swiss in Tibet. The lake is about 12 kilometers (about 39 370 feet) long with an area of more than 6 thousand Mu (about 988 acre). Snowy mountains around are reflected in the crystal water, forming an imposing picture. Buddhist sculptures can be seen on the island in the middle of the lake. The rest of the day is on your own to explore the city.

Stay overnight in Lhasa.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 10: Lhasa

This morning we visit the magnificent **[Potala Palace]**. This ancient architectural complex is considered a model of Tibetan architecture. Located on the Red Hill in Lhasa, Tibet, it is 3,700 meters (about 12 139 feet) above sea level and covers an area of over 360,000 square meters (about 88 acre), measuring 360 meters (about 1 181 feet) from east to west and 270 meters (about 885 feet) from south to north. The palace has 13 stories, and is 117 meters (about 383 feet) high. Potala is the name of the place, which means residence of the Goddess of Mercy in Tibetan language. Tourists are attracted to come to this grand site to admire complicated architectures, devotional atmosphere and exquisite artworks. After lunch, we will visit the **[Sera Monastery]**--one of three most famous monasteries in Lhasa. Also included is a visit to the **[Norbulingka Park]** where they handle political affairs and hold festival celebrations, also considered as the Summer Place of Dalai Lamas.

Stay overnight in Lhasa.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 11: Lhasa-Namucuo

We drive to heaven lake--**[Namucuo]** after breakfast. Located in Dangxiong town, it composes a natural painting with the sky. Besides, those grotesque rocks and caves consist of special and fantastic scenery. The stretching Tanggula Snowy Mountain and those colorful long narrow flags along with the charming Namucuo Lake display in front of you an astonishing picture. When passing the Yangbajin area, you can enjoy a hot spring bath (better to take your swimming suit along, because it's really expensive to buy at the site). You can enjoy a bright sky with stars that look like diamond.

Stay overnight at Namucuo.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 12: Namucuo-Lhasa

Early this morning we will go and **[watch the sunrise]** at Namucuo, which will be an unforgettable memory for you, and then we will drive back to Lhasa city. Afterwards, we will visit the **[Jokhang Temple]**--the ultimate pilgrimage destination for devotional Pilgrims that displays architectural styles of the Tang Dynasty and holds the mysterious legends. The flourishing **[bazaar of Barkhor Street]** is also a must-see place for the tourists. Barkhor Bazaar is the oldest street in Lhasa, as well as the most representative. It is a place full of religious atmosphere and a world of exotic articles. Traditional Tibetan houses and narrow lanes in and around the street whisper the stories of old Lhasa. Subsequently, we continue to the **[Tibet Carpet Factory]**--one of the remarkable enterprises in Tibet mainly producing traditional Tibetan Carpet. All the elegant carpets here are hand-made, in beautiful pictures and excellent quality, and they have nice decorations and are unique in design. If you are interested you can purchase them at competitive prices with various choices. Dinner is served at your hotel.

Stay overnight in Lhasa.

Meals: (B, L)

Day 13: Lhasa-Beijing

You can enjoy a leisurely breakfast, after that you can spend the rest of this morning to walk around and to take photos of local minority and the exotic buildings. After lunch, we will go to the airport for a flight to go back to Beijing.

Meals: (B)

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