



SAN DIEGO ZOO'S
WORLDWILD TOURS

presents

CHINA, TIBET,
AND THE PANDAS
WITH
JIUZHAIGOU NATIONAL PARK



May 15 – 28, 2011

BEIJING • LHASA • CHENGDU

BIFENGXIA PANDA CENTER

JIUZHAIGOU • SHANGHAI

*A Most
Extraordinary Tour
to China*



SAN DIEGO ZOO IN CHINA

– Thirty Years of Protecting Giant Pandas –

Three decades ago, when the San Diego Zoo's relationship with the People's Republic of China was in its infancy, the future of the critically endangered giant panda species was bleak due to habitat destruction, illegal hunting, and the lack of an overall conservation plan. Today, giant pandas face a much more promising future, in part because the Chinese government has developed a conservation strategy as well as established more than 60 panda reserves.

Our Institute for Conservation Research scientists as well as our curatorial team have also played an integral role in bringing the giant panda species back from the brink of extinction. Through our scientific studies and partnership with the Wolong Giant Panda Breeding Center in China, much knowledge has been gained that will help the Chinese manage panda reserves and populations in the wild. We have contributed significantly to the recent giant panda baby boom that has occurred in breeding centers throughout China. Although a 7.9 magnitude earthquake destroyed the Wolong Breeding Center in 2008, we continue our collaboration with its scientists, who have been temporarily relocated to the Wolong satellite base at Bifengxia.

CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS:

- A giant panda milk formula created by our San Diego Zoo nutritionist, coupled with a hand-rearing technique developed by the Chinese called “twin swapping,” have transformed the survival rate of nursery-reared panda cubs from zero percent to 95 percent.
- The giant panda breeding rate at the Wolong Breeding Center increased dramatically following multiyear collaborations with our scientists involving nutrition, behavioral enrichment, husbandry, breeding protocols, and olfactory communications. Before this, few of Wolong's giant pandas mated naturally and the population was in decline. Thus far in 2009, 14 pandas have been born at Wolong's Bifengxia panda base.
- Our panda team developed an early pregnancy test for giant pandas using thermal imaging as well as an ultrasound pregnancy detection. Prior to this, there was no way to determine whether a giant panda was pregnant.



- The first surviving giant panda cub in North America, Hua Mei, was born at the San Diego Zoo in 1999. Hua Mei is also the first cub conceived by artificial insemination in the Western Hemisphere. Since then, a total of five giant panda cubs have been born at the San Diego Zoo, which is a record for North American zoos.
- Our San Diego Zoo giant panda team is monitoring radio-collared pandas in the Foping Reserve in China. This is the first study of its kind to discover where pandas roam within their range and how they interact with other pandas. It will help us understand how the fragmented forests affect giant pandas as well as create natural corridors to link these “island” habitats together.
- Logging of old-growth trees in China has eliminated many high-quality panda maternity dens. Our researchers are part of a team that is trying to understand what factors influence a panda female looking for a suitable maternity den. We would like to be able to create artificial dens for wild pandas in areas where their natural dens have been destroyed.



WELCOME TO CHINA

Dear Friends of the San Diego Zoo,

We are excited to offer a tour to China in 2011 that will provide our participants with the ultimate giant panda experience. We are visiting two giant panda breeding centers—one in Chengdu and the other two hours southwest of Chengdu in Bifengxia. After the 2008 earthquake damaged the Giant Panda Breeding Center in the Wolong Panda Reserve, most of the Center's pandas—nearly 60

animals—were transferred to a satellite facility in Bifengxia. During your visit to Bifengxia, you will see our precious Hua Mei—the female panda born at the San Diego Zoo in 1999—and Mei Sheng—our male panda born at the Zoo in 2003. You will also meet the panda cubs

born in the summer of 2010, who will charm you with their playful antics. In addition, you will learn about the collaborative giant panda conservation efforts by the San Diego Zoo, our U.S. partners, and our Chinese colleagues.

This year's itinerary will also include a visit to some of the most important treasures of Tibet, and visits to Beijing and Jiuzhaigou. A San Diego Zoo escort will accompany you on your journey, along with a national guide from China.

We cordially invite you to join us on this special adventure. Space is limited to 23 travelers, so your early reservation is encouraged. With spectacular scenery, fascinating historical landmarks, friendly people, and, of course, the endearing giant pandas, your magical memories from your journey to China will be treasured forever.

Sincerely,

Amy Parrott
Director, WWT
Zoological Society of San Diego





OPTIONAL POST TOUR EXTENSION **SHANGHAI & HONG KONG**

May 28–31, 2011

Extend your stay and visit Shanghai and Hong Kong. Explore the Shanghai Museum and view its wonderful collection of Chinese bronzes, jade, pottery and ceramics, paintings and calligraphy, old coins, and furniture. Visit the Yuyuan Gardens and cross the famous zigzag bridge leading to Huxingting Teahouse and stop by the famous Children's Palace where many talented Shanghai youngsters learn art music, science and gymnastics after

school.

Visit Hong Kong's most conspicuous landmark, the Victoria Peak and take in the panoramic views of Kowloon and the surrounding islands. Then take a ride on a Sampan and tour Repulse Bay and the Aberdeen Floating Community. Venture through the thick of Aberdeen's floating community of fishing families and eccentric houseboat-dwellings. If time permits, explore the Stanley Fishing village. Return to the USA from Hong Kong.



OPTIONAL POST TOUR EXTENSION **XIAN & YANGZI RIVER CRUISE**

May 28–June 2, 2011

Fly to Xian to see the terra-cotta warriors, Muslim Street, Yangling Museum, and much more. Then, fly to Chongqing and visit General Stilwell's Museum. Board the Victoria cruise ship and travel

through the spectacular Three Gorges. Disembark each day for shore activities including a tour of the amazing Three Gorges Dam at Sandouping. Return to the U.S.A. from Shanghai.





FABULOUS DINING

— Savor China's Regional Cuisine Traditions —

Over the last decade, the culinary arts of China have been rediscovered in spectacular fashion. We can say without exaggeration that Chinese cuisine is the world's most refined and complex cooking tradition. Our tour itinerary features the finest restaurants in both north and south China, each one renowned for its lovely interior and distinctive culinary style. In our view, fine touring means a feast for the palate as well as for the eyes.



IN BEIJING

DA DONG PEKING DUCK

Our welcome dinner is at Da Dong Restaurant, recognized as the premier restaurant for this Chinese delicacy.

KEN DE ROUGE

Newly designed in an elegant contemporary style, Ken de Rouge is an instant hit with its fusion cuisine, tree-lined views of the Houhai lakes, and tasteful interior furnishings.



IN SHANGHAI

HAIIOUFANG RESTAURANT

The fashionable Haioufang Restaurant sits on the Huangpu River in Pudong area with a spectacular view of the Bund lighted up at night. It features traditional Shanghai cuisine (benbangcai) and seafood. A wonderful venue to wrap up our China experience!



MORE NOTABLE DINING EXPERIENCES

Enjoy a lunch of delightful dishes prepared by locals in their courtyard home in Beijing's Houhai District. For many travelers, this lunch makes for a most enduring memory of China.





CHINA, TIBET AND THE PANDAS WITH JIUZHAIYOU NATIONAL PARK

– ITINERARY –

May 15 – 16 • SAN DIEGO – BEIJING

Depart San Diego in the morning. Arrive in San Francisco and connect to your non-stop flight to Beijing, arriving the next evening. Transfer directly to the Grand Hotel located by the Forbidden City. (MEALS ALOFT)

May 17 • BEIJING

This morning, visit the Forbidden City, the abiding symbol of imperial China. Truly one of the great achievements of civilization, its construction employed hundreds of thousands of workers between 1406 and 1420. We'll marvel at its expansive architecture, magnificent imperial gardens, and many museums of Chinese antiquities and treasures.

After lunch, tour the Olympic Village to marvel at the new stadiums. Herzog & de Meuron designed the National Stadium, referred to as the "Bird's Nest", and the firm PTW designed the National Swimming Center, better known as the "Water Cube".

Later, visit the Temple of Heaven, one of the finest creations of the Ming Dynasty. Built in the 15th century the stunning architecture of the Temple of Heaven represents the most advanced principles of mechanics and geometry available at the time.

This evening, enjoy a special Peking duck banquet. (B,L,D)

Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) and Dinner (D) are included in the day's program

May 18 • BEIJING

Today begins with a visit to Beijing's picturesque Houhai District, where many old courtyard homes are preserved and the narrow hutong alleys border tree-lined lakes north of the Forbidden City. We tour the district by "pedicab" for a closer and

more engaging perspective on traditional Chinese life. Later, we divide into small groups and enjoy lunch at the homes of local families.

In the afternoon, we drive to the Great Wall of China. We'll encounter this extraordinary rampart at Mutianyu, a rugged section of the Wall that is less crowded and offers access by foot or cable car.

The Great Wall of China presents a visual experience that consistently exceeds visitors' expectations. Scholars estimate that the Wall once stretched for 3,700 miles, passing through 16 provinces.

We stop at the cloisonne factory on the way down the hill from the Great Wall.

Tonight, we enjoy a special banquet at Ken de Rouge Restaurant in the lovely Lakeside old town. (B,L,D)

May 19 • LHASA

This morning, fly to Gongga Airport in Tibet. Upon arrival, meet our Tibetan guide, drive to Lhasa, and transfer to the Xinding Hotel.

Lhasa is located at an altitude of approximately 12,000 ft, one of the highest cities in the world.

After adjusting to the altitude, enjoy an optional walk around Barkhor Street, the marketplace of old Lhasa and still amazingly evocative of old Tibet. The Barkhor is a religious circumambulation where hundreds of pilgrims on any one-day make their ritual observances. It is also a thriving market, and Tibetan stone-block architecture forms the backdrop for the sale of prayer flags, prayer wheels, thanghas, sutras, jewelry, and Tibetan knives. Lunch and dinner at the hotel. (B,L,D)

May 20 • LHASA

A full day of sightseeing includes the Potala Palace, once the seat of government and the winter residence of the Dalai Lama. Today it remains the abiding symbol of Tibetan Buddhism. The complex comprises the White and Red Palaces situated in the center of Lhasa Valley at an altitude of 12,139 feet. It rises over thirteen stories and holds thousands of rooms.

We take a short drive to Norbul-ingka, the Dalai Lama's former summer residence. Constructed in the 18th century, it is a masterpiece of Tibetan architecture and contains several palaces and chapels. This palace gives a feeling for the daily life of the dalai lamas, beyond the formality dictated by their ceremonial and government roles.

Visit Jokhang Temple, Tibet's holiest shrine, filled with altars, halls, and galleries. The finest Tibetan art treasures are found here, though some originals were lost during the Cultural Revolution. (B,L,D)

May 21 • LHASA

Traveling outside Lhasa, we visit Sera Monastery, one of the three great monasteries of the Gelugpa sect and founded in 1416 by a disciple of Tsongkhapa. The great hall holds thousands of Tibetan sutras in cubicles along the wall, a fitting

evocation of the devotion to learning of Tibetan Buddhism.

Drive to Drepung Monastery, the largest monastic complex in Tibet. Hundreds of monks continue to practice the Buddhist dharma, including historic debating rituals.

Later in the day we visit Tibetan markets. (B,L,D)

Later in the day we visit Tibetan markets. (B,L,D)

(B,L,D)

May 22 • LHASA — CHENGDU

In the morning we fly to Chengdu and visit the Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding Center and the Small Red Panda

Center, where we will learn the latest information about the center's giant panda breeding efforts. Additionally, we will have a chance to visit the newly returned female panda, 3-year-old Mei Lan who was born at Zoo Atlanta

After dinner on one's own, be amazed at the Sichuan Opera, with its mysterious face changing show, shadow puppets, fire swallowing and other intriguing routines. Overnight at the Crown Plaza Hotel. (B,L)

May 23 – 24 • CHENGDU — BIFENGXIA

The Bifengxia Panda Base & Wild Life Park is situated 95 miles southwest of Chengdu in the Bifengxia region, which is a two-hour drive.

The Bifengxia Panda Center was opened in 2003 as a satellite base for the Wolong Giant Panda Breeding Center. Now, with the addition of giant pandas transferred





from the earthquake-damaged Wolong Center—including San Diego Zoo born Hua Mei and Mei Sheng—it is arguably the best place to see giant pandas in naturalistic environments. It is home to approximately 80 adult giant pandas and cubs—more than in any other breeding center in China!

The Bifengxia Panda Center is now playing a new and important role in the conservation of giant pandas. When we visit the Panda Center, we will visit our beloved Hua Mei, who has had three sets of twins and a single cub, and Mei Sheng as well as the other endearing black-and-white residents including the adorable Tai Shan, who was born at the National Zoo and was returned in Spring 2010.

We meet with resident scientists and researchers at the Panda Center and learn about their latest conservation programs. Each traveler will have an opportunity to spend play time with the cubs (cost is included).

Also in the area is the Bifengxia Mountain Park, which extends over nearly 25 square miles. It has long been famous for its breathtaking canyon landscapes, forest coverage, rivers, and waterfalls.

Later we go on safari in the Bifengxia Wildlife Park, the largest wildlife park in China, where over 300 species live in expansive, open enclosures. We'll have the opportunity to see many animals from aboard the tour bus that drives through the enclosures. Spend two nights at Hongzhu Hotel. (BOTH DAYS: B,L,D)

May 25 • BIFENGXIA — JIUZHAIGOU

After breakfast, we drive to Chengdu Airport (2 hours) and take a short flight (50 minutes) to Jiuzhaigou National Park situated in the northern Sichuan Province, and check in at the Jiuzhaigou Sheraton Hotel.

The park was designated as a UNESCO world heritage site in 1992. Surrounded by snow-capped peaks, Jiuzhaigou's lush forest is dotted with crystal-clear mountain lakes and spectacular waterfalls. In

the valley, there are 100 lakes of various sizes and shapes. In Wuhuahai (Five Flower Sea), waters appear in five different colors. The spectacular 100-meter wide Nuorilang Waterfall has a 30-meter drop. (B,L,D)

May 26 • JIUZHAIGOU

We spend the whole day exploring the park's diverse forest ecosystems, home to a number of protected species such as the Sichuan takin, golden monkey, and giant panda. These animals are very reclusive and wander in remote areas away from human dwellings. There are also many endangered plant species in the valley. Jiuzhaigou in Chinese represents "nine-village valley". It is named for villages that were located in the area for hundreds of years. Today six villages still remain and carry on their traditional culture and life style. We will stop by some local markets and homes. (B,L,D)

May 27 • JIUZHAIGOU — SHANGHAI

After breakfast we fly to Shanghai via Chengdu. Upon arrival we check into the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

What strikes everyone about Shanghai is its vitality. Nothing restrains Shanghai in its immense ambition to achieve world-class status; and in only a few short years it has surpassed Hong Kong as the leading Chinese city. Enjoy time on one's own this afternoon absorbing this special energy, a worldly cosmopolitanism for the up-and-coming Chinese empire.

This evening, enjoy a memorable farewell banquet at the Haioufang Restaurant, famous for its Shanghai cuisine.

After dinner, stroll along the Bund, viewing the beautifully decorated colonial buildings along the Huangpu River. (B,D)

May 28 • SHANGHAI — SAN DIEGO

After breakfast transfer to the airport for our return flight to San Diego via San Francisco. Arrive the same day.

(B, MEALS ALOFT)

- TOUR COST -

Main Tour, Land Only, Per Person, Double Occupancy	\$6,530
Single Supplement	\$1,490
Shanghai & Hong Kong Extension	\$1,990
Single Supplement	\$1,090
Xian & Yangzi River Cruise Extension	\$2,290
Single Supplement	\$ 990

Please call for current pricing for Coach or Business class round-trip International Air on United Airlines (San Diego/Beijing – Shanghai/San Diego), including airport transfers for individual or group arrival and departure.

Main Tour Includes: • Double occupancy accommodations in centrally located, first-class hotels • All meals listed at fine Chinese restaurants specializing in regional cuisines or in private homes • All sight-seeing, entertainment, and cultural activities listed in the itinerary • One play time session with pandas • All air and ground transportation within China • Chinese airport taxes • All tour transfers and portage except for travelers making their own international flight arrangements • English-speaking Chinese national and local tour guides • San Diego Zoo escort (with a minimum of 15 participants) • Gratuities to local guides and drivers • Preparatory material

Not Included: • Domestic U.S.A. and international airfare • Airport transfers and portage for travelers making their own international flight arrangements • Visa processing • Meals not listed • Excess baggage charges • Travel insurance • Gratuities to national tour director • Items of a personal nature

For more information, please call China Advocates toll-free at
888-333-2585, or locally at 415-334-4505

- RESERVATION FORM -

SAN DIEGO ZOO'S WORLDWILD TOURS

CHINA, TIBET, AND THE PANDAS WITH JIUZHAIGOU NATIONAL PARK

May 15 – 28, 2011

Enclosed is a deposit for \$ _____ (\$700 per person) to hold _____ place(s).

Please make checks payable to "China Advocates." Final payment is due by February 13, 2011.

Name (1) _____
please print your name as it appears on your passport

Name (2) _____
please print your name as it appears on your passport

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone : Day _____ Evening _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Main Tour Shanghai & Hong Kong Ext. Xian & Yangzi River Ext.

I/We would like you to arrange international air. Coach Class Business Class

I/We will arrange my/our own international air.

I desire single accommodations. I need assistance in securing a roommate.*

*I understand that if a roommate cannot be secured for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement fee(s). Non-Smoker Smoker

I/We understand that, by signing below, I/we acknowledge that China Advocates' Responsibilities and Conditions section of this flyer has been read and accepted.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard American Express (For deposit only. Balance by check only.)

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV Code : _____

(Visa/MC 3 digits on back, Amex 4 digits on front)

Please mail Reservation Form, with deposit, to:

CHINA ADVOCATES

2339 OCEAN AVE • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94127

TEL: 888.333.2585 • FAX: 415.841.1790 • WWW.CHINA-ADVOCATES.COM

TRAVEL IN CHINA

The schedule will be demanding with moderate physical activity. Travel in China requires good physical condition and health (special needs must be arranged for in advance and may result in additional costs), a spirit of adventure, a flexible attitude, and a sense of humor. The itinerary is subject to change and modification. Every effort will be made to carry out the program as planned, but alterations may still occur. Participants should be aware that no refunds will be made as a result of unforeseen changes, modifications, or delays.

Some aspects of this tour may not be appropriate for travelers with health concerns or disabilities. Tourist travel in China can be extremely strenuous and may be especially debilitating to someone in poor health. Tours often involve walking long distances and up steep hills. China lacks handicapped-accessible facilities. Please consult with China Advocates if you have any special needs or concerns.

MEALS

China offers a wide variety of dining experiences and this program will take advantage of a broad range of Chinese food including Shanghai, Hunan, Sichuan, Canton, and Imperial regional cuisines. It is not possible to accommodate special diets, except to the extent one picks and chooses from the many dishes served, especially fresh and seasonal vegetables.

CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS: Bookings are subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in these sections. A contract has been entered into as soon as your booking is received and accepted. To confirm the reservation, a deposit of \$700 per person is required.

GROUP AIR: Group air is for a minimum of 10 passengers flying out and back together. With less than 10 passengers, the price will be adjusted based on what the current airfare is and will be purchased on an individual ticketing basis. For Coach or Business class, call for current pricing including airport transfers for individual or group arrival and departure. Please note that for all air bookings, all sales are final with no exchanges or refunds.

CANCELLATIONS: Tour cancellations must be made in writing to China Advocates, Inc., as soon as possible. Cancellation penalties based on the date of receipt of written notice are as follows: **91 or more days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of \$400 per person is retained; 90-46 days prior to departure, \$1,500 per person; 45-31 days prior to departure, \$2,500 per person; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made.**

Cancellation penalties for air upgrades, additional hotel nights, hotel and cruise ship room upgrades, tour extensions, and any special arrangements, are as follows: **50-31 days prior to departure, 25% of cost; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made.**

RESPONSIBILITIES: China Advocates, Inc. and the San Diego Zoo act only as agents for the various carriers for which tickets are provided and assumes no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, vessel, carriage, aircraft, motor vehicle or other conveyance which may be used either wholly or in part, in the performance of their duty to the passenger. Neither will they be responsible for any act, error, or omission or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by a reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or for any hotel proprietor, hotel service or restaurant, or for any other person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or

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SAN DIEGO ZOO
P.O. Box 120551
San Diego, CA 92112-0551

coupons are issued. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passengers as members for the tours. In such instances, full or equitable amounts will be refunded. Refunds for unused carrier tickets may be only in accordance with the regulations of the carrier. CST 2064278-40 and CST 2090260. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. All legal questions will be settled within the jurisdiction of the County of San Francisco, California.

Visa: To obtain a Chinese visa, a passport is required that is valid for at least six months beyond the duration of the tour.

Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended and available. You will receive travel insurance information once you are confirmed on the program.

Itinerary is subject to modification.

Prices are current as of August 2010 and are subject to change without notice.

