Dynasties of China and Tibet

Yangtze River • Himalayas

May 9-24, 2020

EARLY BOOKING

SAVE $2,000 PER COUPLE!
Howdy, Ags!

The magisterial mountains, sublime lakes and emerald rice paddies of China and Tibet are steeped in centuries-old civilizations. Relics of ancient China, the oldest continuous civilization in history, span thousands of years, from the Terra Cotta Warriors of the Qin Dynasty to the Forbidden City of the Ming Dynasty. A spirit of enlightenment and a reverence for ancestral customs echo through diverse cities.

Join us on this exceptional, custom-designed journey encompassing the breadth of China and including Tibet, with three nights in the Himalayan “Roof of the World.” Walk along the seemingly infinite Great Wall weaving through mist-enshrouded mountains, journey through the serene Three Gorges carved by the Yangtze River and discover two of the world’s most revered spiritual sanctums, the Potala Palace and the Jokhang Temple, outstanding embodiments of Tibetan spiritualism. Experience the rich coalescence of ancient culture and modern vitality in the historic neighborhoods of Old Shanghai, the imperial dignity of Beijing’s Forbidden City, the dynastic treasures of historic Xi’an and the wondrous Tibetan Buddhist city of Lhasa.

Ideally located Five-Star hotels have been carefully selected, including Shanghai’s legendary Fairmont Peace Hotel and the renowned Peninsula Beijing. Our three-night cruise aboard the deluxe Victoria Jenna travels the fabled Yangtze River from Chongqing to Maoping through captivating landscapes, monumental port cities and the dramatic scenery of the Three Gorges.

Visit eight UNESCO World Heritage sites during specially arranged, included excursions accompanied by experienced, English-speaking guides. Enjoy a private boat tour on the secluded Goddess Stream in the Wu Gorge and visit the extraordinary engineering marvel of the Three Gorges Dam. Engage with the people and traditions of China and Tibet to understand the true essence of this modern-day earthly paradise.

The rich seams of antiquity await you on this small group program. Reserve now while Early Booking Savings and space are still available, as this comprehensive program sells out quickly.

Gig ‘em!

Jennifer Bohac ’87, Ph.D. Marisa Liles
Director of Travel – Director of Travel –
Outreach and Engagement Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students The Association of Former Students
Phone: (979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514 The Association of Former Students
Fax: (979) 845-9263

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Beijing, China
The former city of the Mongol, Ming and Manchu emperors, Beijing is one of China’s oldest citadels, replete with well-preserved, legendary sites and relics of imperial history. This thriving city of more than 21 million people is the country’s cultural and spiritual heart and the ideal introduction to the dynamic narrative of ancient China.

Visit UNESCO World Heritage-designated Great Wall of China, a symbol of imperial grandeur since 500 B.C. Constructed over the course of 2000 years, this imposing fortification once spanned more than 13,000 miles. From this historic border, marvel at sweeping views of China’s northern plains and valleys.

Walk through historic Tiananmen Square, the expansive home to the memorial of modern China’s founder, Mao Zedong. Then, pass through the crimson Meridian Gate into the hallowed UNESCO World Heritage-designated Forbidden City, the residence of Ming and Qing dynasty emperors for almost 500 years. Inside, ascend the three-tiered marble terrace of the delicately hewn Hall of Supreme Harmony. Explore ceremonial halls and royal apartments layered in gilded rosewood and playful dragon carvings.

A veritable masterpiece of Chinese landscaping and a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Summer Palace was the lakeside retreat of 19th-century Empress Dowager Cixi. Admire jewel-encrusted furniture in Cixi’s private apartments and see her ornate Marble Boat. Then, cruise by small boat across Kunming Lake’s tranquil waters, which, along with Longevity Hill, form the key aesthetic features of the Summer Palace gardens.

See Chinese cosmogeny extraordinarily rendered in the Temple of Heaven, a UNESCO World Heritage-designated complex of religious buildings symbolizing the classic relationship between heaven and Earth.
Xi’an
Ancient Chang’an, known today as Xi’an, was China’s cosmopolitan capital for 11 dynasties. At this fabled launching point of the Silk Road, many of the world’s great religions coexisted and caravans distributed goods and influence to the world.

Tour the Yangling Imperial Tomb, where thousands of figurines excavated from the 2100-year-old tomb of Emperor Liu Qi capture the essence of daily life during the Han dynasty. Visit the famous UNESCO World Heritage site of the life-size Terra Cotta Warriors, no two alike. In 1974, farmers digging a well unearthed this incredible archaeological discovery, an army of terra cotta figures and horses maintaining a silent vigil over the tomb of Emperor Qin Shi Huang (259-210 B.C.). This visionary monarch, the first ruler of a unified China, introduced a standardized writing system, reformed the legal code and commenced construction of the Great Wall. His tomb remains unexcavated, guarded by manifold charioteers, cavalry and horses. Each warrior bears his own distinctive, lifelike expression and trappings denoting his official rank.

In Xi’an, walk along the best-preserved medieval walls in China. Built during the Ming dynasty, the 39-foot-high walls feature flanking towers, tunnels and a watchtower at each corner. Explore the lively Huimin quarter, infused with the heritage of merchants who traveled the Silk Road 1300 years ago. A wealth of important sites and relics recall Xi’an’s extraordinary history as the imperial capital between 1000 B.C. and A.D. 1000. See the triple-eaved Bell and Drum Towers, where watchmen once signaled dawn and dusk with a bell and a drum, respectively.

Enjoy a traditional jiaozi (dumpling) dinner in a famous Xi’an restaurant.

Lhasa, Tibet
One of the world’s highest elevated cities at nearly 12,000 feet, Lhasa has been a captivating center of Tibetan Buddhism since the seventh century. The Historic Ensemble of Potala Palace, Norbulingka Palace and Jokhang Temple, all UNESCO World Heritage sites, is framed by the elemental beauty of the Tibetan Plateau, the “Roof of the World.”

The Potala Palace dates from the seventh century and is a breathtaking vision; the palace’s fortress walls rise 13 stories above the 98-foot-high Marpo Ri (Red Hill). See the ornately carved and painted ceremonial hall and throne of the Dalai Lama in the 17th-century White Palace. Up the mountain, visit the opulent chapels of the Red Palace which house the jewel-laden tombs of previous Dalai Lamas.

Five-Star Hotels

The Peninsula, Beijing, provides luxurious suites in an ideal location near the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square.

Hilton, Xi’an, located within the ancient city walls, offers contemporary amenities and is in close proximity to the city’s cultural highlights.

Shangri-La, Lhasa, offers stunning views of the Himalayas and Potala Palace.

Fairmont Peace Hotel, Shanghai, is a beautifully restored, landmark hotel on the Bund waterfront.
Just outside the city, the 15th-century Sera Monastery, one of the great educational centers of Gelugpa, or Yellow Hat—the most widespread order of Tibetan Buddhism—once housed more than 5000 monks.

Eighteenth-century Norbulingka Palace, built by the seventh Dalai Lama, contains the lush “Jeweled Park,” the largest garden in Tibet. Constructed in A.D. 647, the towering Jokhang Temple—Tibet’s most sacred building—bears a palpable air of veneration.

Outside the temple complex, fragrant incense perfumes the air while silk robes and turquoise jewelry line the cobbled alleys of bustling Barkhor Square—the only remaining Tibetan enclave in the city—where monks spin prayer wheels and chant mantras.

Lhasa’s only female Buddhist monastery, the Canggu Nunnery, is an oasis amid Barkhor’s activity. The residents welcome visitors to wander the brightly hued courtyards and listen to their rhythmic recitations.

**Chongqing, China**

Located at the confluence of the Yangtze and Jialing Rivers, this mountain city is known for its traditional teahouse culture and spicy Szechuan cuisine. In Chongqing’s zoo, see playful giant pandas in specially designed gardens simulating their natural habitat.

**Yangtze Cruise**

- **Three Gorges/Three Lesser Gorges/Three Gorges Dam**

  Cruise for three days aboard the **Victoria Jenna** amid the enigmatic mountainscapes and bamboo groves of the Three Gorges—Qutang, Wu, and Xiling.

  Visit Shibaozhai, “Precious Stone Fortress,” a rocky promontory on the river’s north bank. Built into its side is the graceful Pearl of Yangtze, a 12-tiered, red wooden pagoda rising 184 feet to a towering summit.

  Pass through Kui Gate, the twin-peaked threshold into Qutang, the most dramatic of the Three Gorges. Admire the quiet beauty and sheer white cliffs of forest-flanked Wu Gorge, where the legendary Twelve Peaks crown misty Wu Mountain. Float gently through the hushed harmony of the Goddess Stream by private small boat and cruise through spectacular Xiling en route to the Three Gorges Dam.

  From Maoping, visit the largest water conservancy project ever undertaken, the Three Gorges Dam. Considered a key to China’s modernization, it is the world’s largest power station.
Dining Room

The deluxe Victoria Jenna, custom-designed by a U.S. architectural firm, provides modern cruise comfort on the Yangtze River.

The 189 spacious, river-view Suites and Cabins, decorated in contemporary Chinese and Western styles, feature sliding glass doors that open onto a private balcony, perfect for viewing the stunning Three Gorges. Each also has air conditioning, a private bathroom with bathtub/shower, telephone, satellite television with English and international channels, safe, closet and hair dryer.

The Dynasty Restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner featuring Chinese and Western cuisine with fresh local ingredients. Complimentary house wine and beer are included with lunch and dinner, while coffee, tea and soft drinks are available throughout the cruise.

For your leisure time on board enjoy two lounges, three bars, an Observation Deck, a library, Wi-Fi access in the Executive Lounge (conditions permitting), a gift shop, a spa and beauty salon and a fitness room. Shipboard entertainment and exercise programs feature traditional Chinese culture. There is a doctor on board. Laundry service is available.

The highly trained, English-speaking crew provide personalized, amiable service. Gratuities to shipboard personnel are included.

Shanghai
The metropolis of Shanghai is a rousing blend of innovation and tradition. Across the fabled Huangpu River, see the bold high-rises and broad avenues of Pudong, Shanghai’s pulsing financial center. Tour the renowned Shanghai Museum, which houses a collection of ancient coins, including rare pieces from the central Asian kingdoms along the Silk Road. Visit the historic French Concession, the Chinese Old Quarter and the tranquil YuYuan Gardens, featuring many tea houses, canals and shops. The rooftop of the Five-Star Fairmont Peace Hotel provides the ideal setting for the Farewell Reception, framed with breathtaking views of the city skyline.

Dynamic Hong Kong Post-Program Option
Experience the exciting contrasts and epic drama of Hong Kong, a thriving combination of nearly 5000 years of Chinese history and vibrant modern influence. Visit the Kowloon Walled City Park, the Wong Tai Sin Taoist Temple, the Chi Lin Nunnery, Victoria Park and Man Mo Temple. Experience the city’s colorful markets, lined with flower stalls, bird gardens and dai pai dong (food stalls). Enjoy a sampan ride through the Aberdeen floating village and a scenic ferry ride across Victoria Harbor. Accommodations are for three nights in the Five-Star Kowloon Shangri-La Hotel. The Post-Program Option is at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Included Features

In Beijing, China
- Three nights in the Five-Star Peninsula Beijing.
- Full Western breakfast each morning.
- Welcome Reception and Peking duck dinner.
- Visit to emotive Tiananmen Square.

In Xi’an
- Two nights in the Five-Star Hilton Hotel, within the ancient city walls.
- Full Western breakfast each morning.
- Visit to the Yangling Imperial Tomb Museum to see figurines from the Han Dynasty.
- Tour of old Xi’an, including the city’s inner walls and the ancient Huimin quarter.
- Traditional dumpling (jiaozi) dinner.

In Lhasa, Tibet
- Three nights in the Five-Star Shangri-La Hotel.
- Full Western breakfast each morning, one dinner featuring traditional Tibetan music and two lunches.
- Excursion to the 15th-century Sera Monastery.
- Visit to the serene Canggu Nunnery.

In Chongqing, China
- Visit to the Chongqing Zoo to observe giant pandas.

UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights
- Excursion to the magnificent Great Wall of China.
- Walking tour of Beijing’s mysterious Forbidden City.
- Visit to the towering Summer Palace, including a small boat cruise around Kunming Lake.
- Excursion to Beijing’s 15th-century Temple of Heaven.
- Excursion to the Xi’an Terra Cotta Warriors complex.
- Visits to Lhasa’s Potala Palace, Norbulingka Palace and Jokhang Temple (including Barkhor Square).

On Board the Deluxe Victoria Jenna
- Three-night Yangtze River cruise from Chongqing to Maoping, with a tour of the Three Gorges Dam.
- Suite or Cabin with a private balcony.
- Welcome Reception and Farewell Dinner.
- All meals aboard ship.
- Complimentary house wine and beer served with lunch and dinner; complimentary soft drinks, coffee and tea throughout the cruise.
- Complimentary Executive Lounge access, including beer, wine and spirits one hour before dinner and Wi-Fi access (conditions permitting).
- Tai chi exercise sessions throughout the cruise.
- Excursion to Shibaozhai to see its wooden pagoda.
- Private boat cruise on the Goddess Stream.

In Shanghai
- Three nights in the historic Five-Star Fairmont Peace Hotel, located on the Bund waterfront.
- Full Western breakfast each morning.
- Farewell Reception.
- Panoramic tours of the famed Bund and Pudong districts and the French Concession.
- Walking tour of the hutong alleyways of the Old Chinese quarter and the Yu Yuan Gardens.
- Visit to the renowned Shanghai Museum.

Always Included
- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- Gratuities to shipboard personnel, river guides and local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Cabin aboard ship and on excursions.
- Tibet travel permit.
- Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- Hospitality desk in the hotels and aboard ship.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Chinese civilization originated along the Yellow and Yangtze Rivers during the Neolithic era, and for centuries, its culture, literature and philosophy flourished, with each dynasty and kingdom adding to its collective knowledge and heritage. Similarly, Tibet possesses a long and storied history of deep traditions that developed along the Yarlung River Valley in the seventh century. The historic home of the Dalai Lama, Tibet’s remote location among the foothills of the Himalayan mountain range holds an intriguing allure. The peaks of the Himalayas are sacred to Buddhism, the religion that serves as a powerful bridge between the physical and spiritual relationship of China and Tibet.

Buddhist teachings have played an influential role in the politics, economics, technology and art among Tibetans, Chinese and their neighbors through the present day. Yet, for hundreds of years, China and Tibet were insular countries, allowing only glimpses of their cultural richness to the outside world via the Silk Road, which further stoked the European imagination of the unique lands in the East. A mysterious land, one which Napoleon referred to as “a sleeping giant that would change the world when awoken,” China finally lifted its shroud in 1972. The reopening of China—and Tibet several years later—and the introduction of their ancient traditions to the Western world vaulted China into its current progressive nation status, which continues to be a spectacular transformation of the most populous, perhaps most culturally distinctive place in the world.
DYNASTIES OF CHINA AND TIBET RESERVATION FORM

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Email Address (Business)
Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 051-05/09/20-104

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Dynamic Hong Kong Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.
Make checks payable to 2020 Dynasties of China and Tibet.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:
- Visa
- MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by January 10, 2020.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:
1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

- Double occupancy
- Double occupancy
- Single accommodations

- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):
Dynamic Hong Kong Post-Program Option

- Double at $1,295 per person.
- Single at $1,995 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate.

Airfare from Shanghai to Hong Kong is at an additional cost.

1/We want you to book my/our air, at an additional cost to be advised, from:

(fill in departure city)

- Economy Class
- Upgraded Economy Class
- Business Class
- First Class

*Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

1/We will make my/our own air arrangements.
Giant panda is the rarest member of the bear family.

Considered a Chinese national treasure, the vulnerable giant panda can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

At the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is a new reservation and must be cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted for any other third party.

In addition, without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or public authorities; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, diseases from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

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Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for the costs of trip changes or for any inconvenience resulting therefrom.

The right is reserved to change without notice the type of transportation, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to weather, water conditions or levels, other events of force majeure, medical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therfore and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an reason) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan, however, is not required under these circumstances to offer alternative travel at the same or decreased travel insurance. Gohagan reserves the right to cancel any trip for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories, acts of God (including weather, storms, or any other forces of nature), acts of government, acts of terrorism, civil unrest or any other third party.

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ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street
Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446
(312) 609-1140 or (800) 922-3088
http://www.gohagantravel.com

Considered a Chinese national treasure, the vulnerable giant panda is the rarest member of the bear family.