



Canada - China  
Agriculture and Food Development Exchange Centre

加拿大-中国农业与食品发展交流中心

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## 2012 Students Explore China Tour Tentative Itinerary

### Day 1: Arrival/ Beijing

Welcome to Beijing Capital International Airport (PEK), the 2nd busiest airport in the world by passenger traffic. You will be greeted by our tour guide and transferred to check in at your hotel where you are at your leisure to chill out and enjoy the evening.

### Day 2: Beijing

Day 2 will consist of a tour of some of Beijing's most sacred landmarks, followed by a delicious dinner of Peking duck!



Beijing, the capital city, is also the second largest city in China with population of 17.4 million. Your full day tour begins at the **Tiananmen Square**, which is one of the largest public squares in the world, and contains the Monument to the People's Heroes, the Great Hall of the People, the Museum of History and Revolution, and the Chairman Mao Zedong Memorial Hall (with Mao's embalmed body). Next, you will tour the **Forbidden City (The Imperial Palaces)**, which is the imperial palace for Ming and Qing emperors for 500 years, and is sited on 72 hectares of land with 9000 rooms covering a floor space of 150,000 square meters.

### Day 3: Beijing

On day 3, we will continue to enjoy China's most famous landmarks including the Great Wall of China and Peking University- followed by a visit to the Beijing Zoo. On our last day in Beijing, we will continue to extensively learn about the beautiful city, and the opportunities it holds for us. During your stay in Beijing, you will gain insight into the hustle and bustle city life of China, and will benefit from seeing the way of life in the inner city areas, in comparison to the countryside locations we will visit later on in the trip.

**Beijing Zoo-** Situated to the west of Beijing Exhibition Center, the Beijing Zoo has developed rapidly and by 1987, covered an area of over 40,000 square meters. Bears, elephants, pandas, lions, tigers, songbirds, hippopotamuses, rhinoceroses, antelopes and giraffes were brought in the late 1950s, and a gorilla cage, leaf-monkey cage and aquarium house, was opened, containing over 100 species of reptiles from all over the world, including crocodiles and pythons. This place is definitely something we have to check out!



**The Great Wall of China-** This land mark most commonly associated with China is also named one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. It is the dream destination for millions of Chinese and people around the world to fulfill the famous Chinese saying "One cannot be a successful person without a visit to the Great Wall".

**Peking University (PKU),** Founded in 1898, is the first national university in Chinese modern history, with a high reputation in and outside China, Peking University is the owner of an abundance of teaching resources and outstanding research level. Peking University now consists of 40 departments and is home to over 4,000 staff and 30,000 students each year. We will be meeting with young students there to tour the campus with us and share their skills in education and agriculture. We will also be meeting some Canadian students that are studying in China. International officers and university professors will be present to meet you and speak about the opportunities available to you.



Afternoon: A networking social event is planned for you to interact and chat with Chinese students! This is a great opportunity to make contacts for the future and gain insight on what kinds of future options and opportunities are open to you in China! Maybe you'll consider coming to China after high school to carry out your studies!

Evening: Leaving Beijing--Taking a train to Xi'an. (13 hours)

#### Day 4: Beijing/ Xi'an

In the morning we arrive in Xi'an, get settled in, and begin the day's adventures! We will visit the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses Museum (Bing Ma Yong) followed by a delicious Imperial Dumpling Banquet at the bell tower and later- we experience the famous Tang Dynasty Stage Show.



Xi'an, the former capital of many Chinese dynasties, has a rich history dating back thousands of years. Even in the prehistoric era, it is believed that the Lantian man lived here 500,000 years ago. The first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, unified China in 201 BC and made significant influence in Chinese history. When he died, an entire Terra Cotta Army was buried with the emperor in the mausoleum. It was well documented by Chinese historian about this mausoleum, but it wasn't until 1974 that this site was uncovered serendipitously by a team of farmers. This became one of the greatest archaeological discoveries in history. To learn more and view the findings, we visit the **Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses Museum (Bing Ma Yong)**. It's known as the 8th miracle in the world. The whole mausoleum is like a cultural treasure vault with large collections of relics. If you liked history class, you will love this city!

**The Tang Dynasty Show** is a wonderful performance of ancient music and dance depicting the tang dynasty that was the most powerful and prosperous in the historic Chinese culture. Many impressive costumes, instruments and art forms are used in order to accurately illustrate China's splendid history, brilliant arts, distinct traditions and customs.

#### Day 5: Xi'an

We drive about two hours to the rural county to see corn, a potato farm, cattle, piggeries, orchard farms, ostrich farms and irrigation schemes. Technical meetings with local agricultural experts, officials, marketing experts and farmers will be arranged after each visit in order to gain insight on the great agriculture China has to offer the world.



In the evening, we will enjoy a special ecological dinner—a experience of the surrounding flora and fauna



In the afternoon, we take a train to Luoyang. This will give you the opportunity to view China's countryside on a larger scale and get a good take on the rural aspect of China's lifestyle.

Once we arrive in Luoyang, we will get settled in and rest for the next day's exciting adventure!

## Day 6: Luoyang/Zhengzhou

On this day, we visit the Shaolin temple of Luoyang and are introduced to a more spiritual, religious aspect of the Chinese culture. Here, we will see the ancient art of Chinese Kung Fu and learn what it's all about. Who knows, maybe we will learn some moves!



The Shaolin temple, established in 495, has many legends and mysteries surrounding it. The origin of martial arts and Kung Fu embodies the vague mysteries of the Shaolin Temple and the shaolin monks. Shaolin Temple is probably the most famous temple in China, not only because of its long history and its role in Chinese Buddhism, but also because of its martial arts or Wushu Chan.

In the evening, we will take a short bus ride to Zhengzhou where the night is at our leisure to enjoy the city, and hangout.

## Day 7: Zhengzhou/Suzhou

On this day we will embark on a leisurely tour, and learn of the many historical aspects of the city, and well as the city's current role in China's economic development.

Although Zhengzhou is not typically a city to tour, it is one that is very educational in terms of technological advances, the economy and various agricultural benefits. Zhengzhou has an approximate population of over 7 million people. It is home to the production of apples, paulownia, tobacco, cotton and wheat. We will view the yellow river, and learn of the severe economic benefit it holds for China. If you like the city, you will love Zhengzhou!



In the afternoon, we will disperse and relax until the evening, where we take our train Suzhou.

## Day 8: Suzhou

On this day, we will take a boat cruise along canal to view the city, the beautiful surrounding environment and the daily life of the locals. We will stop off at the Suzhou silk institute, do some shopping and see the Surging Waves Garden. Following this, we will make a visit to the silkworm farms.



**Suzhou** is renowned for its beautiful stone bridges, pagodas, and meticulously designed gardens which have contributed to its status as a great tourist attraction. Also, it is famous for its beautiful Silk Institute and the art of silk manufacturing.

**The Suzhou Silk Institute** was established in 1957 and employs over 100 specialized experts including Chinese master craftsmen, senior craftsmen, and highly qualified artists. Many foreign customers bring their pieces to the Suzhou Silk Institute in hopes to have it in embodied- after seeing the high retail price, they have changed their minds.

At the silkworm farms we will learn how delicate Chinese silk is made, and learn some history regarding the development of the art.

Then visit the **Surging Waves Garden**, the oldest existing garden in the city and one of the four most famous classical gardens in China built in Song Dynasty 900 years ago.

**The silkworm farm is definitely something to see. How in the world is silk made out of worms? When you visit, you will learn!**



## **Day 9: Suzhou/Shanghai**

After breakfast, we will leave the peaceful area of Suzhou and drive for two hours to the large busy city of Shanghai. From here, your two day excursion will include visits to the famous Huangpu River, the Oriental Pearl TV Tower, the Shanghai Museum, Naging Road, the Jade Buddha temple and to celebrate the trip, entertainment provided by the Shanghai Acrobatic show!



**Huangpu River**, the 'mother river' of Shanghai, is the symbol and embodiment of Shanghai. This river is synonymous with the History of Shanghai, being inextricably intertwined with the social and economic life of the city and having nurtured its prosperity and witnessed its honours and disgraces. The Huangpu River is a must for travelers to Shanghai.

**Oriental Pearl TV Tower**, surrounded by the Yangpu Bridge in the northeast and the Nanpu Bridge in the southwest, creates a picture of 'twin dragons playing with pearls'.

**Shanghai Museum** has an immense collection of Chinese ancient art. There are over 120,000 precious cultural relics stored in this museum, including bronzes, chinaware, calligraphy, paintings, bamboo and wooden lacquer works, and so on. The most distinctive collections are bonzes, chinaware, calligraphy and paintings.

## Day 10: Shanghai/Final Departure

**Najing Road** is Shanghai's main shopping street, famously named one of the World's Seven Great Roads in the 1930s and now making a rapid comeback after decades of Maoist austerity. The road stretches from - The Bund - east towards Hongqiao, with Shanghai's center point- People Square in the middle.



**Jade Buddha Temple** is home to 70 resident monks at last court with symmetrical halls and courtyards, upturned eaves and bright yellow walls. Inside, the centerpiece is a 1.9-metre-high white jade Buddha, which was installed here after a monk has brought it from Burma to Zhejiang Province in 1882.

**The Shanghai Acrobatic Show** is in a very typical Shanghaies setting and atmosphere, you will enjoy many breathtaking and stunning programs such as Calvarias Skills, Silk Suspending, Hoop Diving performed by very skilful performers; you will truly have an unforgettable experience of your life!

In the evening, we will take our plane back to Toronto from Shanghai.

