Unique Ethnic Cultures and Stunning Landscapes of...

CHINA 1

PHOTO TOUR
October 22 to November 3, 2019

We include two special traditional festivals on Oct 24 and 25, 2019!
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SPECIAL FESTIVALS
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FANTASTIC VALUE FOR MONEY...
* We include an excellent land package from accommodation, to most meals, and some of the best guides in the world.
* We target amazing nature and creative options.
* We target incredible landscapes - they will blow you away!
* Non photographic partners love our events.
* Small photo group size minimum 6, maximum 9/10.
* Expert professional photo guide who works hard to optimise your photo interests.
* This is our 30th year of offer amazing World Photo Adventures!

CHINA - the adventure ...
We are targeting the places less visited in China’s rural and cultural heartlands. We also offer the iconic subjects like a Cormorant Fisherman shoot and so much more. The landscapes will ‘blow you away’!

“What I loved on our first visit was the spectacular landscapes that few photographers have photographed. Our group also raved about the excellent food and the many exclusive adventures. We often shot with few or no other people! And the accommodation was first class! I can’t wait to help you explore these locations again!”
Darran

This unique photo tour is specifically designed to target some of the best culture, landscape, nature and creative images of China. We leave the cities behind and explore and shoot icons like palaces, ancient cities and ruins and China’s rich culture. A stunning mix of ‘iconic China’ from culture to nature and landscapes. We are using the services of a ‘local legend’ who’s experience and knowledge of China is outstanding. China has a rich history and offers amazing photo opportunities for all interests. We guarantee you unique photo opportunities and the chance to experience the diversity of China.

ASIA - the adventure ...
Asia is a destination offering endless exploration experiences. Immerse yourself in the heartland of uniquely captivating images. In 2019 we invite you to photograph Asia through your choice of three magnificent tours:

1. China 1 – Tribes and Landscapes – October
2. China 2 – Pandas, Monkeys, Terracotta Warriors – November
3. Classic Mekong Luxury River Cruise – November

Join us on this great ‘life experience’ adventure...

YES 30 YEARS...
In 1989, Darran guided his first photo tour group to Norfolk Island. Julia guided a group of travel agents from New Zealand. They met at the famous island fish fry – the rest is history...

MIKE O’CONNOR
Editor Australian Photography Magazine & Photographer
Before taking up the mantle of editor of Australian Photography, Mike O’Connor worked for 3 years as a photographer and writer for WWF, the World Wide Fund for Nature, in New Zealand. He has travelled, written and photographed around the world, with his writing and photographs appearing in every major broadsheet newspaper in NZ as well as a number of travel publications. In 2012 he lived and worked in Chennai, India as a journalist with the New Indian Express newspaper.

www.australianphotography.com
ITINERARY - to adventure...

DAY 1 - ARRIVAL IN SHANGHAI
October 22
You meet Darran and Mike today at reception at 4pm and head off for your first shoot and dinner - we shoot on the Bund. Great food and stunning colours start a magic photo holiday. Bring your tripod...
Shanghai Hotel - (D)

DAY 2 - SHANGHAI TO GUIYANG
October 23
We take an early morning flight to Guiyang. Today highlights the amazing culture of the old Han (Chinese) ethnic group. The ancestors of these villagers migrated from Jiangxi Province to Guizhou Province in the Ming Dynasty (600 years ago). We will drive to the Liuguan Village. Women here are still dressed in traditional Ming dynasty costumes, and houses remain faithful to the Ming architectural styles. The ancient stone house, lots of legend story and warm hearted people will leave you an unforgettable experience. We will photograph a local Ground Opera performance, famed for the performers’ symbolic masks, the opera in Liuguan dates from 1382, during the Ming Dynasty. It is said as one of the oldest operas of the world, which is still surviving. Women’s hairstyle is another unique in Old Han People. Ming Dynasty government implied soldier-family management system to govern the whole country. During warring time, the soldiers had to fight in their region. While the men were away, they try to make their wives ugly to keep their loyalty by cutting their hairline very high.
Hotel accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAY 3 - GUIYANG TO KAILI
October 24
Today, we drive to Kaili and visit Matang Gejia Village, a quiet village inhabited by the Gejia minority, where we will learn about their culture, of which very little is known. The Gejia although classified as Miao are in fact a separate group. Their founder is General Da Sa, probably of Manchu descent. You will see the typical costumes, houses, embroidery and batik making. We photograph the performances and local audience. Afterwards, we visit Qingman Village for this Medium Skirt Miao’s embroidery and performance. Guizhou is one of China’s least known provinces and best kept secrets. It was opened to tourists in the late 1980’s. It has the most hills in China. Guizhou is nicknamed ‘The Kingdom of Mountains’, as 87% of its land is comprised of mountains and plateaus. The Capital Guiyang city, literarily translation is “Precious Sunshine”. Guizhou is a multicultural province with third largest ethnic population in China. Forty-eight distinct ethnic groups live alongside Han Chinese who has migrated there from all regions of the country.

Continues...
The variety of ethnic groups living in Guizhou makes up 36 per cent of the total population of 40 million. A major charm of the province for travellers is the number of festivals, resplendent with colour and suffused with music, that take place throughout the year and that remain an important part of continuing traditional lifestyles and customs. However, like all the tribes elsewhere in the world, more and more young people in Guizhou is working outside in the city, their valuable culture is vanishing. Fewer and fewer young people know how to make their traditional costume and its exquisite embroidery. Most of them only dress the colourful traditional costume during the festivals or special dates when they return home. Darran and Pearce will work hard to offer you the best experience and fantastic shoot options. A chance to try techniques that you might have not used before. Hotel Accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAY 4 - KAILI TO RONGJIANG
October 25
Today, we drive along the Duliu River to experience the Sui people’s life and living environment. This route was selected as one of National Geographic Traveller’s “Tours of a Lifetime”. We have the chance to enjoy the ‘back country’ of China and the valuable and vanishing ethnic minority culture and history. Today, we photograph Long Skirt Miao Performance in Langde, and visit Datang Village en route. Hotel Accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAY 5 - RONGJIANG TO ZHAOXING
October 26
We start today exploring the Dong Ethnic Minorities Village. After lunch, we photograph a performance at Basha village – the last gun village in China. We then drive to Zhaoxing Dong Ethnic Minorities Village. A day of mixed people/culture and colour. Lodge accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAY 6 - ZHAOXING TO YANGSHUO
October 27
Today we photograph Zhaoxing Village in that lovely early morning light. Afterwards, we take a train to Guilin. We then drive to Xingping for an iconic cormorant fisherman and bamboo boat sunset shoot - amazing! Xingping is an ancient town near Yangshuo. As we sit on the deck of the boat, it will seem as if we are viewing one scroll painting after another.

This is territory that has inspired Chinese artists of all sorts for thousands of years. We will have our prepared breakfast at a little restaurant and walk around Xingping Town. Over thousands of years, Xingping remains its Ming (1368-1644 AD) and Qing Dynasty (1644-1911 AD) style old architectures and the original town layout. At the dock, you can get a picture for the immortal scenery that can be seen on the back of the RMB 20 notes. Resort Accommodation - (B,L,D)
Days 7-8 - Yangshuo
October 28/29

Very early this morning, we will take a private boat ride down the Li River, which is considered by many as one of the most beautiful rivers in China. Cruising along the river, you may feel as though you are idling along a corridor of landscape paintings of limestone pinnacles set against terraced rice fields and picturesque villages. We include a private shoot – A straw or Palm bark-made raincoat dressed fisherman, cormorants, gas lamp and bamboo raft. After this fun shoot, we drive from Xingping to Yangshuo, stopping at Fuli Fishing Town for the fan workshop and photogenic local market. On this road, we can see all kinds of orchards and fields: sugarcane, rice, etc. After lunch, take a short rest. Around 3pm, we photograph the sunset at Aishan, one of the best remaining spots for a nice picture of water and the karsts mountain.

Resort Accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAY 9 - YANGSHUO TO HUANGSHAN
October 30

After our morning photo session, we fly to Hangzhou. (This flight is included.) We then drive to Huangshan. Huangshan, which means Yellow Mountain, has been a well-known destination for scholars, poets and the occasional recluse, all seeking personal inspiration and enlightenment – when you visit you will easily appreciate why. Situated in the southern portion of the agriculturally rich Anhui Province and bordering Jiangxi and Zhejiang provinces, the picturesque Huangshan has long been effusively described as “awesome,” “a wonderland” and “Heaven on Earth.”

Hotel Accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAYS 10/11/12 - HONGCUN, TOP OF HUANGSHAN MOUNTAIN
October 31 + November 1 & 2

After breakfast, we’ll drive 1 hour to Hongcun, a UNESCO World Heritage Site housing typical South Anhui architecture (one of the most photogenic villages in China). The town is built along the banks of Nan Lake -- a fine place for photographs of its traditional architecture. After lunch, we then drive to reach the foothill of Huangshan. We will ascend the eastern side of Huangshan by cable car, and then walk to our hotel. On the way, we photograph Beginning-to-Believe Peak, Imperial Brush Pen Peak. During the following days, We photograph Beginning-to-Believe Peak, Stone monkey watching the sea, Cloud Disappearing Pavilion (Grand Canyon of West Sea), White Goose Hotel sunset spot, Flying over Rock, Mountain Ranges, Brightness Summit, Fairy Bridge, all beautiful spots on top of the mountain.

Hotel Accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAY 13 - TOUR ENDS
November 3

After morning photo session, we descend the top of the mountain for a final group lunch. Tour ends after lunch. Julia can book more accommodation, transfers to the airport - OR... (B,L)
PHOTO TOUR PRICE

AU$9,995 Twin Share per person

As per itinerary, with all accommodation, meals, access to unique photo opportunities, small group size - local guide and driver and professional photo guide.

EVENT DEPOSIT REQUIRED - AU$1,500 pp.

Please read our terms & Conditions and fill in our online booking form. At this time we recommend Travel Insurance, which includes deposit protection cover. Most credit card companies offer complimentary travel insurance. Travel agents offer travel insurance or, you can Google - Travel Insurance.

Bookings are as per our terms and conditions.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT - AU$1,295 pp.

We will try our best to find someone to share with you. However, part of the booking conditions is that a single supplement is applicable if no one is available to share.

TO BOOK: Please use our online booking form: https://worldphotoadventures.com.au/booking-form/

Need more help? Contact Julia - 0427205331

THE COST INCLUDES

• All land tour costs as per itinerary
• Accommodation in 3, 4 & 5 star hotel & lodges. Single accommodation as per details left.
• All domestic flights as per itinerary.
• All meals as detailed in the itinerary.
• Private land transportation
• Entrance fees to parks
• Local English-speaking expert guides
• Professional photo guide

NOT INCLUDED

• International Air tickets
• Personal expenses
• Items not included in the itinerary

FLIGHTS

We do not include your international flights. (Or any other flights, unless included in the itinerary.)

We are happy to help you!
We can book a complete package for you - land, air and transfers.

IMPORTANT

To make sure you book the correct dates and times, we would request the following:
1. Don’t purchase any air tickets, until our guides flights have been booked, which we will do approximately 8 - 9 months prior to the tour departure. We will advise you when the guides flights are booked and you can then use this itinerary, to help you use points or similar. This will also coincide with confirming the tour departure, making sure we have met minimum passenger numbers for the tour and the logistics of the tour have not changed.

2. We suggest you arrive a minimum of 24 hours prior to the tour departure - even 48 hours - to help with jet lag and in case of airline delays.
There are many reasons our tours are so successful. Here are just a few ...

**UNTAMED QUALITY AND EXPERIENCE**
With over 70 years of combined experience in tailoring premium travel quests, our team ensures you never settle for less than the best. We offer lovely 3/4 star accommodation for your comfort and enjoyment.

**EXCEPTIONAL END-TO-END EXPERIENCE**
We work towards delivering the time of your life. Our office gem Julia, helps you with all your pre- and post-tour needs. Once you are 'out in the field' our professional local drivers and guides are right by your side. Your personal photo guides are the best in the world! World Photo Adventures and its expert team know this captivating land better than anyone.

**GREAT TOURS COME IN SMALL GROUPS**
Small group travel gives you flexibility and the ability to follow your interests. That’s why we keep tour group sizes small so you can savour your travel experience.

**FIRST TIME ON TOUR WITH US?**
We’ll happily answer your questions, offer advice or connect you with the experiences that will satisfy your wanderlust. Contact Julia at: julia@worldadventures.com.au.

**SAFETY AND SECURITY**
Your safety and security is very important to us. Apart from the experience of your WPA guides, our local operators are outstanding and very experienced to local cultures and customs. Our itineraries, accommodation and tour information all add's up to helping you enjoy a great adventure, with peace of mind.

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**OUR UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS**
Apart from our experience...
World Photo Adventures is a member of AFTA, ATAS, and IATA – national travel industry accreditations. AFTA, ATAS, IATA members are recognised as running a credible, professional travel business, offering clients peace of mind. WPA is required to annually meet compliance benchmarks to uphold their accreditation. We are a fully insured tour operator. For more details go to – www.afta.com.au

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MEET THE WPA TEAM

At World Photo Adventures, creating marvellous and memorable journeys is our mission. Our tours give you impressions and experiences you'll cherish for a lifetime. We're more than travel and tour specialists — we're your complete photography adventure solution. We take you straight to the photographic heartlands of your chosen tour region. As a family business, personalised service is close to our hearts.

DARRAN LEAL
Professional photographer/guide
With over 400 successful photo tours/ workshop and seminars worldwide and counting, Australian-born Darran's lifetime loves are travel and outdoor photography. He combines these with vast experience in delivering global photo tours, workshops and seminars. Darran is one of the world’s few full-time professional photo guides. He leads photographers of all levels to many of the world’s most captivating locations. As a natural born photographer, educator and adventurer, Darran’s career inevitably led him to help others explore and capture their world. Now Darran spends his time up to his arm pits in crocodiles, cuddling gorillas or herding photographers.

Check out Darran's work first-hand at:
www.worldphotoadventures.com.au

PEARCE LEAL
Professional photographer/guide
No photographer could wish for a better guide to getting remarkable destination shots than a fellow photographer. Pearce is the man to get you weaving incredible lens magic, with over 30 tours and workshops under his belt, Pearce has traversed incredible image opportunities in Africa, the USA, South America, Asia and Australia. In addition, his own photographic work has been featured in magazines and media around the globe. He has won several awards in the AIPP, to finalist in the BBC Wildlife Photographer of the year. His teaching skills and his dedication to help those on tour is outstanding.

Check out Pearce’s work first-hand at:
www.pearcelealphoto.com

JULIA LEAL
Professional travel consultant
Exploring new territory is an adventure Julia has been savoring since childhood. Julia was born in Liverpool, England yet soon migrated to New Zealand with her family. She launched her travel career in 1979 in tropical Noosa, Queensland where she managed one of the first resorts in the region. Then it was back to Auckland, New Zealand to take up the role of travel consultant. Before long, Go International snapped Julia up as a travel rep. While leading an educational tour on Norfolk Island in 1989, Julia met Darran. Though her career remained trans-Tasman for several years after, Julia is now in her element as a travel consultant extraordinaire for World Photo Adventures. When it comes to securing an extraordinary photographic adventure tour founded on unrivalled service, Julia has it covered.

STAND-OUT SERVICE
Stunning Norfolk Island set the stage for our first photo tour in 1989. (In fact Darran and Julia met on this very first photo adventure!) Since then our tours have gone from strength to strength — and continent to continent. Wherever you travel with World Photo Adventures, our superior service levels are a mainstay. Claim the ultimate tour experience for you and your lens. From our friendly helpful staff, you'll enjoy the peace of mind and exceptional experience that only comes from working with one of the world’s most experienced photo travel companies.

FRAZER LEAL
IT Wizard
At a very young age Frazer pulled apart computers to ‘see how they worked’ and started to fix all sorts of technology. He first became serious with a camera when he borrowed his dad’s camera while on a workshop on Fraser Island. He went on to win best photo with over 100 adult photographers. Frazer is our IT and Social Media manager. He designs and manages our website and helps to keep you up to date with our great adventures.
WHO BOOKS OUR PHOTO HOLIDAYS?
From animated ‘point and shoot’ amateur photographers to seasoned photographic veterans, we get a broad cross-section of photo enthusiasts on every tour. Not super keen on snapping? No problem. You are still guaranteed a great time. Whether your finger never leaves, or never hits a camera during a tour, you will have an unforgettable experience. Our unique locations, top guides and small travel groups make sure of it. While our clients vary in age and experience, all attend with the same goal — to have a fantastic holiday. We ensure every client gets exactly that.

WE OFFER YOU ...

• A fantastic land package ...
That's right, we include everything from hand picked 3/4 star accommodation, plus meals as per itinerary, transport, entrance fees.

• Great guidance every step of the way ...
A vibrant travel itinerary that never misses a beat. Local knowledge to fully immerse you in the richest offerings of the region. Professional photographic support is provided to ensure you secure superlative images. You will have it all thanks to our professional photographer and local guide. Both are with you throughout your tour.

• Small group sizes for big personal advantage ...
You want to maximise your photographic and experiential opportunities. We want you to as well. So we keep tour groups small with a maximum of six travellers per guide. You will benefit from utmost flexibility and personal attention, with an experienced guide on-hand too.

• Fantastic accommodation ...
Comfort is an important part of all travel. So we ensure a high standard of accommodation throughout your tour. That means you will always be well rested to make the most of every tour day.

• Marvellous meals ...
Eating ‘on the job’ can only be planned to a certain extent. After all you would not want to miss incredible photographic and travel opportunities because you were busy dining. So we provide a selection of meals as detailed in your itinerary. Your guides will arrange all other meals to ensure you never miss a chance to enrich your tour memories and books or albums.

LIBERATE YOUR LENS AND YOUR SENSES
Our ‘end-to-end’ tour takes you on a journey of incredible discovery. So put yourself in the big picture with prime travel information and inspiration ...

GET TO KNOW THE DESTINATION
You can begin your exploration of the tour destination without leaving home. Visit www.maps.google.com.au. Simply type in the locations on your itinerary and explore to your heart’s content. It’s a great idea to embark upon your adventure well informed on this rich natural wonderland.

WEATHER
Please google temperatures for that time of the year at the destination. We will offer more information in our - Final Itinerary.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN OUR TOUR PRICE
We aim to provide a convenient price for almost all your travel and tour arrangements. Yet some additional costs do fall outside our tour prices. Your airfares are an extra cost unless your itinerary specifies otherwise. All transfers, laundry and sundries not listed in the itinerary also fall outside our tour price.

PLEASE NOTE: it is vital that you do not book any flights or other travel services for your tour before speaking to our office first. No tour is ever ‘guaranteed’ until minimum numbers and other key logistics are confirmed.

ITINERARY AND PRICE CHANGES
Tour prices are correct at the time of printing, but these are subject to change. Please use your itinerary and associated pricing as a guide only.

KITTING OUT YOUR CAMERA COLLATERAL
No matter what your photographic level or style, World Photo Adventures maximises your image interest. Our clients use everything from top line D-SLRs with pro lenses to mid-range kits. We even have a wealth of non-photographically inclined partners come along with basic compact cameras.

Your equipment is personal to you. What matters is that you know how to use it and how to get the most out of your tour. That is why we offer a workshop at the start of all tours. Plus you’ll have a professional photographer on-hand to give you personal assistance while you’re in the field. You can even benefit from ‘mini photography workshops’ during the course of your tour. In short, we give you everything possible to help you capture lasting images of the world’s most breathtaking location — in a way that matches your style, desires and photographic equipment.

Itinerary, price and details are subject to change.

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