

## 2010 China Educational Tour Tour Destination Introduction

**The Forbidden City**, also known as Palace Museum is the former Imperial Palace for the 24 Emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasty. It is the world's largest palace complex and covers 74 hectares with 9,999 buildings. Having been the imperial palace for some five centuries, it houses numerous rare treasures and curiosities. Listed by UNESCO as a World Cultural Heritage Site in 1987, the Palace Museum is now one of the most popular tourist attractions worldwide.



**Temple of Heaven** is the largest temple and altar complex in China, where the ancient Emperors worshiped Heaven and prayed for good harvests. It was built in 1420 A.D. during the Ming Dynasty.

**Wang Fu Jing Street** is Beijing's premier shopping street. It is partially closed to cars and is crowded at all times of the day with tourists. Recently unveiled to the public after months of renovation, this wide, sprawling street is a showcase of Beijing's economic progress. Feeling adventurous? Then dine on deep-fried scorpion among other local culinary delights at the night market!



**The Summer Palace** literally translates in “Garden of Nurtured Harmony”. This Beijing palace covers 2.2 square kilometers and includes many gardens, palaces and classical architectural structures such as bridges and beautiful statues.

**The Great Wall of China** is one of the world's architectural wonders – the only man-made structure that can be seen from outer space. Just like a gigantic dragon, the Great Wall winds up and down across deserts, grasslands, mountains and plateaus stretching approximately 4,163 miles from east to west of China. With a history of more than 2000 years, it is one of the most appealing attractions all around the world owing to its architectural grandeur and historical significance.





**The Xiu Shui Market** in Beijing houses 1,700 retail vendors and over 3,000 salespeople spread over seven floors with three levels of basement. It is a shopping mall with a wealth of traditional Chinese knick knacks to bring home for your family. It has become the inner city's one stop tourist shopping paradise.

**Yellow Crane Tower** is one of the four great towers of China. The tower is located at the bank of the Yangtze River in the city of Wuhan. Each floor of the Yellow Crane Tower has an exhibit with its own unique theme that displays the historical significance of this amazing tower.



**Guiyuan Temple** is an ancient Buddhist temple in Wuhan, dating from the late Ming Dynasty. Best known for its hall of 500 gilded "luohan" (enlightened disciples), each in a different posture and having distinct features, this temple was founded in the mid-17th century by the monk Bai Guang.



**Big Wild Goose Pagoda** is located in Xi'an. It is one of the most famous Buddhist pagodas in China. Rated as a National Key Cultural Relic Preserve as well as an AAAA Tourist Attraction, this pagoda was built during the Tang Dynasty in 652. The Big Wild Goose Pagoda housed sutras and figurines of the Buddha that were brought to China from India.

**Terracotta Warriors and Horses** in Xi'an is a breathtaking collection. These figures date back to 210 BC and were discovered by local farmers in 1974 near the tomb of the first Emperor of China, Qin Shi Huangdi. The figures include warriors, horses, chariots, acrobats and musicians. There are three pits that contain the Terracotta Army, and current estimates are that there were over 8,000 soldiers, 520 horses and 130 chariots.



**Tang Paradise** not only claims to be the biggest cultural theme park in the northwest region of China but also the first royal-garden-like park to give a full display of the Tang Dynasty's (618-907) culture. Altogether, twelve scenic regions are distributed throughout Tang Paradise to provide visitors with the enjoyment of twelve cultural themes and a perfect exhibition of the grandness, prosperity and brilliance of the culture of the Tang Dynasty.