

Beyond the Clouds – Yunnan 6 Days/5 Nights

Kunming/Dali/Lijiang

Known as the 'City of Eternal Spring' due to its wonderful climate, Kunming is a place that combines modern industry, ancient temples, delightful parks and an Old Quarter with its historic flower and bird market. Outside the city is the Stone Forest - a collection of petrified rocks that have formed unusual shapes and are now set in landscaped gardens. Kunming provides a good starting point for those wishing to explore Yunnan province.

A short flight away is the beautifully preserved traditional Chinese town of Dali, sitting at the base of the Jade Green Mountains and featuring the stunning Erhai Hu Lake as a centrepiece. Its setting makes Dali Old Town a great place in which to sample local Bai



culture and explore the peaceful countryside. Apart from the town itself, with its cobbled streets and ancient walls, the most famous site in the region is the Temple of the Three Pagodas which dates back to the 9th century.

Partially destroyed by a huge earthquake in 1996, Lijiang has been rebuilt and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. An intricate maze of cobbled streets and squares make the Old Town the perfect place to wander and soak up the atmosphere. Fantastic scenery can be found just out of town in the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain National Park and farther north in one of China's most noted spots - Tiger Leaping Gorge. 3,900m deep, Tiger Leaping Gorge runs for 10 miles with the mighty Yangtze compressed between its twin peaks. It is one of the most spectacular gorges found anywhere in the world.

Tour Itinerary

Day 01: Arrival in Kunming

Day 02: Stone Forest tour

Day 03: Flight to Dali and Dali tour

Day 04: Transfer to Lijiang and tour of the old city

Day 05: Visit the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain Park

Day 06: Flight to Kunming for your departure

Huangshan (Yellow Mountain) Extension – 03 days/02 nights

Huangshan/Hongcun/Xidi

Huangshan Mountain is often referred to as 'the loveliest mountain of China' and was much acclaimed in art and literature throughout Chinese history. Today, as a UNESCO World Heritage site, it is one of China's major tourist sites and still holds that same fascination for visitors, poets, painters and photographers the world over who come on pilgrimage to the site year after year. Surrounded by its magnificent granite peaks and grounds and enshrouded by a sea of clouds, it is not difficult to see why this mountain has held such eternal acclaim throughout the ages.

Nearby, the ancient villages of Xidi and Hongcun preserve to a remarkable extent the appearance of non-urban settlements which have largely been lost or transformed during the last century. Walking through these villages will take you back to the

