

2010 Feb 16th - Mar 5th

“Chinese New Year Season Special Cultural/Photographic Tour”

- a part of Western China Expedition Series
by Yau-Sun Tong



Features and Benefits:

- An 18-day expedition to specially selected areas, rich & colourful cultures, landscapes; spectacular & rare local festivals; unparalleled photographic experiences!
- Southwestern China - an exclusive itinerary to the *southeastern region of GuiZhou* province (黔东南地区), where exceptional original cultures still exist...and is strongly recommended by UNESCO as one of the ten best areas to visit for returning to originality and simplicity in the world...! A marvelous yet not seen by outsiders local tribal festival will be a feature event for our visit, with pleasant warm weather.
- Northwestern China - a remarkable itinerary to the *southern region of GanSu* province (甘南地区) bordering with northern *XiChuan* province; with two major local Tibetan festivals that will leave you a lifetime impression. It is an outstanding opportunity for a worthy exploration to a truly interesting part of northwestern China.
- Southern China - to relaxingly conclude our special tour, we will south down to the nice warm sunny *GuangDong* province, a great visit to *Xinhui & Kaiping* regions (新会、开平), including the visit to an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Then by boat along the *Xijiang River* to *Macao* - the former Portuguese colony, visiting another UNESCO World Heritage Site while in Macao.
- Delicious cuisines from distinctively different styles of cooking in the above regions... A tasty & healthy enjoyment daily during our special journey!

Thoughts behind the design of this exclusive itinerary:

During this special tour, there are three most noteworthy cultural festivals we will attend, the first one is in GuiZhou, the other two are in GanSu. Those unusual festivals are only held in specific dates during that time of year according to the Chinese lunar calendar.

Hence our itinerary is set to meet those special dates, in order to maximize benefits for our participants.

I sincerely hope this carefully tailor-made itinerary will give our participants a lasting impression of a most colorful, joyful, scenic, cultural and rich festivity journey of a lifetime. Also will be a great time to escape from the bitter cold of a Canadian winter...

And for those who have not been China before, I hope this tour will serve as an unique introductory journey to this vast land of a great country, in an 18-day sojourn one could have a meaningful experience of northwest, southwest, and southern China...

For those who have been China before, I hope this unusually exclusive journey will further enrich your China experience, and perhaps your photography tremendously as well!

Map of China
"an itinerary sketch"



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Itinerary in brief

- Day 1 - Feb 16th (正月初三), **Beijing** arrival, gather in a beautiful hotel designated for our group, an evening of welcoming dinner with famous *Peking Duck* and *Peking Opera* performance;
- Day 2 - Feb 17th, by air to **GuiYang**, welcome to the charming southwest, sightseeing, a visit to the **GuiZhou** provincial museum with rich contents, an evening of authentic GuiZhou style welcome dinner;
- Day 3 - Feb 18th to Feb 22nd (正月初五至初九), **Southeastern GuiZhou** visits, by coach; including the intended *Miao* festival;
- Day 8 - Feb 23rd (正月初十), **GuiYang** fly to **Lanzhou**; welcome to the great northwest, a visit to the noteworthy **GanSu** provincial museum for an overview of the region, an evening of authentic northwestern style welcome dinner;
- Day 9 - Feb 24th to Feb 28th (正月十一至十五), **Southern GanSu** visits, by coach; sightseeing, local minorities, including the two intended festivals;
- Day 14 - Mar 1st, by air to **GuangZhou**, welcome to the southern gateway of China; sightseeing, a visit to the rich & informative **GuangDong** provincial museum; by coach leave **GuangZhou** towards **Xinhui** region, an evening treat of real local flavor welcome dinner;
- Day 15 - Mar 2nd to Mar 3rd, **Xinhui & Kaiping** areas visit, by coach;
- Day 17 - Mar 4th, by boat along Xijiang River to **Macao**, sightseeing; overnight **Macao**;
- Day 18 - Mar 5th, by boat across the bay to **Hong Kong** International Airport, for our participants' home return flights; A delightful completion of our journey!

(detailed itinerary could be available to our participants. Early arrival and longer staying in China can be arranged)

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As in the past, the “Special Western China Expedition Series” tours always fill up quickly. Space availability will be assigned on a first come first serve basis.

To view photo-diaries from some recent memorable tours for a glimpse and a taste:
expedition tour news-page: <http://photoart.chebucto.org/photonews.html>

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