



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
of SMITH COLLEGE

&

Dartmouth

Alumni Travel

Present

CLASSICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF CHINA:
A TOUR FOR FAMILIES
WITH YANGZI RIVER CRUISE



July 3 – 14, 2012

BEIJING • XIAN • CHONGQING
YANGZI RIVER • YICHANG • SHANGHAI

*A Most
Extraordinary Tour
to China*



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

The Alumnae Association of Smith College and Dartmouth Alumni Travel's *Classical Highlights of China: A Tour for Families* explores China's magnificent civilization with a view to amaze travelers both young and old.

This tour places you right in the middle of effusive Chinese charm, sure to delight children eager to experience something Chinese. Among the daily discoveries, we will fly Chinese kites at the Temple of Heaven, learn of Qing dynasty astrological instruments at the Beijing Observatory, and be astounded by the skills of dedicated students at the Beijing Martial Arts Academy.

We also get a sense of the "living past" of the Ming and Qing dynasties with visits to the capital's Forbidden City and Summer Palace. In Xian, the Qin dynasty emerges before our eyes with Emperor Qinshihuang's terracotta warriors. And in Chongqing, we visit General Stilwell's Museum to learn of America's indispensable effort in World War II.

Our cruise on the Yangzi River offers an intimate look at river life and the extraordinary Three Gorges, with its deeply carved valleys and towering mountains. Enjoy special day-tour excursions to the breathtaking Lesser Gorge Daninghe and the Three Gorges Dam construction site at Sandouping.

In Shanghai, explore the Shanghai Museum and view its wonderful collection of Chinese bronzes, jade, ceramics, paintings and calligraphy. Ride on the famous German technology magnetic levitation train, or "Maglev" speeding at 260 miles an hour and taking only 8 minutes to reach the Pudong Airport, normally an hour's drive by car!

Our meals each day offer the finest of regional cuisine, a culinary experience not found anywhere outside of China. The creativity of the Chinese chef is well-known, and we shall enjoy an amazing variety of dishes over the course of our tour.



WELCOME TO CHINA

Dear Dartmouth and Smith Alumni/ae and Friends:

Join families and fellow travelers as we embark on an exciting exploration of the Middle Kingdom. This tour combines wondrous insights into Chinese culture in many regions of the country with the finest hotel accommodations and Chinese culinary experiences.

For our children, travel to foreign lands is a form of "instant education," and they shall never forget the spectacular sights of China, which are the focus of this tour.

In Beijing, we concentrate on imperial architecture and gardens as well as the trappings of royal power. Then enjoy old Beijing hutong, traveling by pedicab through the narrow lanes. We marvel at the Great Wall, the most enduring symbol of China, with its serpentine coursing over rugged mountains.

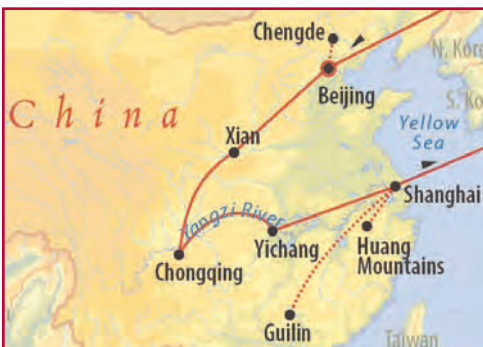
The Yangzi River will thrill with its picturesque landscape of towering mountains and steep gorges. And the spectacular Three Gorges Dam is an unforgettable experience. Finally, we delve into the cosmopolitan ambience of Shanghai, one of the fastest changing cities in the world.

We look forward to having you join us on this immersion in Chinese life and culture. Families in China enjoy the additional advantage of seeing the marvels of this great civilization through their children's eyes.

Sincerely,

Roberta Moore
Director of Continuing Education & Travel
Dartmouth Alumni Travel

Carrie Cadwell Brown Ed.M '82
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Smith College



◆ DARTMOUTH COLLEGE STUDY LEADER



We are pleased to introduce Kenneth Bauer, who will serve as the Dartmouth presenter and host on this exciting family adventure to China. Kenneth is a researcher, professor, and president of a non-profit organization (DROKPA) which works with Himalayan and Central Asian communities to catalyze social entrepreneurship. At Dartmouth, Ken teaches and conducts research in Geography and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. His academic interests include land use, resettlement of pastoralists, conservation and ethnobotany of climate change. No stranger to Asia, Ken has been a consultant to the World Wildlife Fund in Nepal, coordinated the Digital Himalaya Project for

Cornell and has led multiple adventure and service trips for young people through *Where There Be Dragons and Wilderness Ventures*.

◆ SMITH COLLEGE STUDY LEADER

Sabina Knight first studied in Beijing as a college junior in 1986. After further study in France, Taiwan, and the former Soviet Union, as well as studying and teaching at UC-Berkeley and UW-Madison, in 1998 Sabina came to Smith, where she is now Associate Professor of Chinese and Comparative Literature. She is the author of *The Heart of Time: Moral Agency in Twentieth-Century Chinese Fiction* (Harvard, 2006), and *Chinese Literature: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford, 2012), as well as book chapters, translations, and refereed articles. Working in Chinese, Russian, French, and English, she is now researching traditional and modern Chinese perspectives on healthcare.

Since 1999 Sabina has also been a Research Associate at Harvard's Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, and she is currently a fellow in the Public Intellectuals Program of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. She is also passionate about art, taiji, tango, and swing dancing.





OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

If you would like to extend your time in China exploring other areas, consider joining one of these pre- and post-extension tours. A detailed brochure on each of these extensions with daily itineraries will be sent upon enrollment.

OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR EXTENSION: June 30 – July 4, 2012

CHENGDE SUMMER PALACE

Come to China three days prior to the main tour and experience the grandeur of the Qing Dynasty Summer Palace at Chengde, within a few hours drive of Beijing. With a history of more than 300 years, this is one of the great



cultural landmarks in all of China. The garden complex includes imperial halls,

southern-style lake gardens, a hunting area, an area of Mongolian yurts, and a wooded hillside with numerous pavilions. Beyond the palace were built eight Buddhist temples, each one architecturally

unique, of which five remain. Then, join your tour group on its arrival in Beijing.

OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION: July 14 – 18, 2012

HUANG MOUNTAINS & HUIZHOU CULTURE

This five-day extension focuses on Anhui Province and its idyllic landscape of rice paddies, Ming and Qing Dynasty villages, and old town centers. Discover traditional Anhui life, regional architecture and museums, and the crown jewels of the region, the Huang Mountains.



The beauty of granite precipices towering above the morning valley fog have provided inspiration to Chinese artists for centuries. On foot and by cable car, explore the Yellow Mountains' tabled views. Return to the U.S. from Shanghai.

OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION: July 14 – 18, 2012

GUILIN, YANGSHUO & LONGSHENG

Extend your travels with this 5-day exploration of the sublime scenery in Guilin, Longsheng and the famous Li River. Known for rice terraces cut into precipitous hills since the Yuan Dynasty, Longsheng's beauty is awe-inspiring. Take in the famous spectacular karst limestone formations of Guilin,



vertical mountains thrust up from the seabed some 300 million years ago. Cruise down the Li River, winding past the ancient villages at Mural Hill, Folded Brocade Hill, Crescent Moon Hill, and many more. Return to the U.S. from Shanghai.



FABULOUS DINING

– Savor China's Great Regional Cuisine Traditions –

Over the last decade, the culinary arts of China have been rediscovered in spectacular fashion. Chinese cuisine is one of the world's most refined and complex cooking traditions. Our tour itinerary features several of the finest restaurants in both north and south China, each one renowned for its lovely interior and distinctive culinary style.



IN BEIJING

QUANJUDE DUCK RESTAURANT

Our welcome dinner is at Quanjude Duck Restaurant, recognized as the premier restaurant for this imperial delicacy.

KEN DE ROUGE

Newly designed in an elegant contemporary style, Ken de Rouge is an instant hit with its fusion cuisine, tree-lined views of the Houhai lakes, and tasteful interior furnishings.



IN XIAN

DEFACHANG DUMPLING RESTAURANT

One of the unexpected gastronomic discoveries for travelers to China is the dumpling delicacies of Xian. Dozens of visually gorgeous dumplings with equally scrumptious fillings have everyone raving.

YANGZI RIVER CRUISE

Our Yangzi River cruise features delicious Hubei-inspired dishes, with a unique blend of innovative and classic culinary taste. Every meal distinguishes itself with a well-balanced array of dishes.



IN SHANGHAI

DINGXIANG GARDEN RESTAURANT

Nestled in the residence of the famous concubine Ding Xiang, this restaurant-in-a-mansion is often cited as one of the city's best bets for Shanghai cuisine. Dishes are noted for their elegant presentation and delicate southern flavours.



MORE NOTABLE DINING EXPERIENCES

Enjoy a lunch of delightful dishes prepared by locals in their courtyard home in Beijing's Houhai District. For many travellers, this lunch makes for a most enduring memory of China.





Young participants from Dartmouth's 2011 China Tour for Families

CLASSICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF CHINA: A TOUR FOR FAMILIES WITH YANGZI RIVER CRUISE

July 3-4 • U.S. – BEIJING

Depart the U.S. on a flight to Beijing. Cross the international date line and arrive in China the next day. Check in at the hotel, located in the heart of Beijing. (MEALS ALOFT)
Accommodations at the Novotel Beijing Peace Hotel

July 5 • BEIJING

After breakfast, begin your China exploration with a welcome orientation by your tour director. Classical China beckons outside your hotel and nearby is the imperial architectural axis that runs from Qianmen Gate, to the grand halls of the Forbidden City, to Jingshan Hill. This line demarcates the center of the Chinese universe—which is to say, all things cultural, social, political, and spiritual find their source here.

We begin our day with a visit to the picturesque Houhai district, where well-preserved courtyard homes and narrow hutong alleys border tree-lined lakes. Tour the district by “pedicab” for a closer and more engaging experience of traditional Chinese life. We enjoy lunch at the homes of local families.

After lunch, explore the Temple of Heaven, one of the finest creations of the Ming Dynasty. This stunning architecture realizes the great Chinese desire to incarnate heaven in material form, and represents the most advanced principles of mechanics and geometry of the time.

At the temple, learn to fly intricate and colorful Chinese kites with a Chinese kite master. Kite flying is an old tradition and a great Chinese passion. For thousands of years, it has been a way to connect humans to the sky, and the higher, the better!

Later, visit Beijing's ancient observatory

on the top of the old City Wall and Tower in Jianguomen. Initially built in 1442 during the Ming Dynasty, its rich history spans more than 500 years. Given as gifts from European royals, here you will find eight ornately made bronze astronomical instruments, well preserved since the time of the Qing Dynasty.

This evening, savor the imperial city's most famous delicacy, Peking duck, at the renowned Quanjudu Duck Restaurant. (B,L,D)

Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) and Dinner (D) are included in the day's program.

July 6 • BEIJING

Our tour begins today as we enter the gate of the Forbidden City, the abiding symbol of imperial China. Truly one of the great achievements of civilization, its construction employed hundreds of thousands of workers between 1406 and 1420. Marvel at its expansive architecture, magnificent imperial gardens, and many museums of Chinese antiquities and treasures.

Lunch is at Ken de Rouge Restaurant, located at the west bank of historic Shichah Lake. Designed by a well-known Chinese architect returned from the States, Gu Peng, Ken de Rouge features the finest fusion cuisine in town with beautiful ambiance and a tree-lined lake view.

In the afternoon, visit the beautiful grounds of the Summer Palace. The Palace was built in 1888 for the Empress Dowager Ci Xi, using funds originally intended for the Qing Imperial Navy. Saunter through the exquisite royal gardens and cruise on lovely Kunming Lake. Also walk the Painted Gallery, the longest garden walkway in China, famous for its lake views.



This evening is at leisure with dinner on one's own. After dinner, you may venture out on your own and attend a performance at the new National Grand Theater, lovingly dubbed the "Big Egg." Designed by French architect Paul Andreu, the building took ten years to construct. This complex is built with 25,000 titanium plates and 15,000 glass panels and houses three state-of-the-art theaters. Not unexpectedly, it is the most expensive theater facility ever built in the world. (B,L)

July 7 • BEIJING

In the morning visit the Beijing Martial Art School. Meet students, practice with the resident teacher, and watch a martial art demonstration.

Then head Northeast for the Great Wall of China. Encounter this extraordinary rampart at Mutianyu, a rugged section of the wall that offers easy access by foot or cable car. As is usually the case, the Great Wall presents a visual experience that dramatically exceeds visitors' expectations. Construction of a few miles of the wall on such jagged peaks seem nearly miraculous, but the rampart stretches for 3,700 miles and passes through 16 provinces.

Lunch is at Xiaolongpu Restaurant at the foothill of the Wall. This restaurant is famous for fresh farmers' produce and is the locals' favorite cuisine.

On the way back, stop by the Olympic Village to marvel at the new stadiums made famous by the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Herzog & de Meuron designed the National Stadium, the "Bird's Nest," and the firm PTW designed the National Swimming Center, the "Water Cube." You may swim at the Water Cube, where Olympic medalist Michael Phelps won 8 gold medals in the 2008 Summer Olympics.

Tonight enjoy dinner at Huajiayiyuan Restaurant featuring imperial Cuisine. (B,L,D)

July 8 • XIAN

This morning fly to the ancient Tang Dynasty capital of Xian, formerly known as Chang'an. The old capital was located not far from present Xian and was the seat of imperial power for over one thousand years, beginning with the first unification of China in the Qin Dynasty.

Upon arrival visit the extraordinary 2,300-year-old terracotta warriors in the tomb of China's first emperor,

Qinshihuang. The warriors still stand on the site where they were discovered by farmers in 1974. This vast army was intended to defend the emperor in the afterlife.

Our day concludes with a dumpling banquet at Defachang Dumpling Restaurant, where we'll feast on over 20 kinds of Chinese dumplings, a Xian specialty. (B,L,D)
Accommodations at the Golden Flower Shangrila Hotel



July 9 • XIAN - CHONGQING

In the morning explore Shanxi History Museum and its artifacts spanning many dynasties. The curator will greet us and provide an introduction to the museum's unique collections.

We then have an opportunity to stroll Muslim Street and get a sense of the Islamic past that traces its heritage to the flourishing Silk Road culture of the Tang Dynasty. Explore the Grand Mosque, first established in the Tang Dynasty. Laid out in quadrants, the mosque uses Chinese architectural design for Islamic purposes. Interestingly, we can see here the powerful tendency of Chinese culture to assimilate





all outside forces into its civilization, and the equally grand power of Islam to retain its own identity.

Make the short flight to Chongqing and upon arrival, go directly to General Stilwell's Museum which commemorates the American military leader's efforts in China during WWII. Then explore the lively art scene at the Chongqing Art Galleries.

Following dinner, board the Victoria cruise ship. (B,L,D)

July 10-11 • YANGZI RIVER CRUISE

Travel downstream through the spectacular Three Gorges (Qutang, Wu, and Xiling), enjoying the dramatic scenery and beautiful vistas as they appear. Along the way, disembark the ship to enjoy activities offshore. Tour the ancient village of Fengdu and see the breathtaking Lesser Gorge Daninghe. An amazing experience is coming face-to-face with the spectacular Three Gorges Dam at Sandouping. The largest construction site in the world is also China's latest effort to tame the Yangzi River. Our ship will navigate the new system of locks here.

The unending panorama of river scenery makes this one of the great voyages of Asia. It also gives a sense of how deeply imprinted the Yangzi River is on Chinese history and culture, as is the Mississippi River for Americans. Enjoy numerous cultural presentations and entertainment activities throughout the journey.

(B,L,D - BOTH DAYS)

July 12 • YICHANG - SHANGHAI

At Yichang, disembark the ship after lunch. Then fly to Shanghai and transfer to your hotel in the heart of French Concession by Xintiandi.

What strikes everyone about Shanghai is its vitality. Nothing restrains Shanghai in its immense ambition to achieve world-class status; and in only a few short years it has surpassed Hong Kong as the leading Chinese city. Our time here will be spent absorbing this special energy, a worldly cosmopolitanism for the up-and-coming Chinese empire.

Have dinner on your own and spend the evening at leisure, perhaps exploring Xintiandi, a stylish dining and shopping

district in the old French Concession area downtown. Designed by MIT architect Ben Wood, Xintiandi is a \$200-million, two-block neighborhood filled with modern restaurants, clubs, cafés, and boutiques accessorized with old bricks, stone gates, and ornately carved wooden balconies from the dense warren of old courtyard houses that previously filled those blocks. Xintiandi proved so successful a model for urban redevelopment that it spawned at least dozens of duplicates across the country. (B,L)

Accommodations at the Jinjiang Tower Hotel

July 13 • SHANGHAI

In the morning, divert oneself among the wonderful collections of the Shanghai Museum, including its world-class displays of Chinese bronzes, jade, pottery, ceramics, furniture, paintings, and calligraphy.

Then visit the Yuyuan Gardens in old Shanghai, which is designed in six unique parts, making the garden seem much larger than it really is. We find one of the best Ming rockeries here, and wending the zigzag bridge to Huxingting Teahouse is a delight. Visit the Shanghai Caoyang Workers' Community and meet with the residents. Here we have an opportunity to interact with the Shanghai locals and learn about their life in the large neighborhood community.

In the afternoon visit the Pudong District and visit the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum. This hands-on interactive science museum, opened in 2001, has received rave reviews.

Later, ride on the famous German technology magnetic levitation train, or "Maglev" speeding at 260 miles an hour and taking only 8 minutes to reach the Pudong Airport, normally an hour's drive by car!

Enjoy a farewell banquet at Dingxiang Restaurant, famous for Shanghai cuisine.

After dinner, we stroll along the Bund, viewing the beautifully decorated colonial buildings along the Huangpu River. (B,L,D).

July 14 • SHANGHAI - U.S.

After breakfast, transfer to the Shanghai airport for flight home. Arrive in the U.S. on the same day. (B, MEALS ALOFT)

- TOUR COST -

Main Tour, Land & Cruise Only, Per Person, Double Occupancy	\$3,850
Single Supplement	\$1,390
Main Tour, Children 17 yrs and under sharing a triple room w/ Adult	\$3,450
Main Tour, Children 17 yrs and under sharing a double room	\$3,550
Chengde Pre-Extension	\$ 990
Single Supplement	\$ 490
Guilin Post-Extension	\$1,890
Single Supplement	\$ 890
Huang Mountains Post-Extension	\$1,790
Single Supplement	\$ 790

Roundtrip International Air available through Airtreks. For pricing, please contact Airtreks directly at 415-977-7136 or at china-advocates@airtreks.com.

****Private Airport Transfers upon arrival in Beijing and departure in Shanghai are recommended and available through China Advocates. Call 1-888-333-2585****

Main Tour Includes: • Double occupancy accommodations in centrally located, first-class hotels • All meals listed, at fine Chinese restaurants specializing in regional cuisines or in private homes

• All sightseeing, entertainment, and cultural activities listed in the itinerary • Chinese airport taxes • All air and ground transportation within China • English-speaking Chinese local tour guides • China Advocates' national tour director (with a minimum of 10 participants) • Gratuities to local guides, drivers and porters on main tour • Preparatory material

Not Included: • Domestic U.S. and international airfare • Gratuities to National Tour Director • Gratuities on extensions • Airport transfers and portage • Visa processing • Meals not included in the tour • Excess baggage charges • Travel insurance • Items of a personal nature

For more information, please contact China Advocates toll-free at 1-888-333-2585 or locally at 415-334-4505

- RESERVATION FORM -

**DARTMOUTH ALUMNI TRAVEL
& ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF SMITH COLLEGE**

**CLASSICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF CHINA: A TOUR FOR FAMILIES
WITH YANGZI RIVER CRUISE**

July 3 – 14, 2012

Enclosed is a deposit for \$ _____ (\$700 per person) to hold _____ place(s).

Alumni of Dartmouth College Alumnae of Smith College

Please make checks payable to "China Advocates." Final payment is due by April 4, 2012.

Name (1) _____ Birthdate _____
please print your name as it appears on your passport

Name (2) _____ Birthdate _____
please print your name as it appears on your passport

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Optional Extensions: Chengde Pre-Tour Huang Mountains Post-Tour Guilin Post-Tour

Accommodations: Double Single Triple I need assistance in securing a roommate.

(I understand that if a roommate cannot be secured for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement fee(s).)

Non-Smoker Smoker

Bedding Request: One Bed Two Beds Three Beds (Request is based on availability)

I/We understand that, by signing below, I/we acknowledge that the Responsibilities and Conditions section of this flyer has been read and accepted.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard American Express (For deposit only. Balance must be paid by check.)

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV Code: _____

(Visa/MC 3 digits on back, Amex 4 digits on front)

Please mail Reservation Form, with deposit, to:

CHINA ADVOCATES • 2339 OCEAN AVE • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94127
TEL: 888.333.2585 • FAX: 415.841.1790 • WWW.CHINA-ADVOCATES.COM

TRAVEL IN CHINA

The schedule will be demanding with moderate physical activity. Travel in China requires good physical condition and health (special needs must be arranged for in advance and may result in additional costs), a spirit of adventure, a flexible attitude, and a sense of humor. The itinerary is subject to change and modification. Every effort will be made to carry out the program as planned, but alterations may still occur. Participants should be aware that no refunds will be made as a result of unforeseen changes, modifications, or delays.

MEALS

China offers a wide variety of dining experiences and this program will take advantage of a broad range of Chinese food including Shanghai, Hunan, Sichuan, Canton, and Imperial regional cuisines. It may not be possible to accommodate special diets, except to the extent that one is able to select from the many dishes served.

CONDITIONS


RESERVATIONS: Bookings are subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in these sections. A contract has been entered into as soon as your booking is received and accepted. To confirm the reservation, a deposit of \$700 per person is required. Credit card payment accepted for deposit only; balance must be paid by check.

AIR: Air cancellations and penalties are based on each carrier and ticket. Be sure to review these policies before purchasing air via Airtreks. China Advocates, Inc., the Alumnae Association of Smith College, or Dartmouth Alumni Travel are not responsible for any penalties incurred due to air changes or cancellations.

CANCELLATIONS: No Cancellation is valid until it is received in writing either by the office of Smith Travel or Dartmouth Alumni Travel. Cancellation penalties based on the date of receipt of written notice are as follows: **91 or more days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of \$400 per person is retained; 90-46 days prior to departure, \$1,500 per person; 45-31 days prior to departure, \$2,500 per person; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made.**

Cancellation penalties for additional hotel nights, hotel and cruise ship room upgrades, tour extensions, and any special arrangements, are as follows: **50-31 days prior to departure, 25% of cost; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made.**

RESPONSIBILITIES: China Advocates, Inc., the Alumnae Association of Smith College, and Dartmouth Alumni Travel act only as agents for the various carriers for which tickets are provided and assumes no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, vessel, carriage, aircraft, motor vehicle or other conveyance which may be used either wholly or in part, in the performance of their duty to the passenger. Neither will they be responsible for any act, error, or omission or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by a reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or for any hotel proprietor, hotel service or restaurant, or for any other person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators.


CHINA ADVOCATES
2339 OCEAN AVE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94127

The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passengers as members for the tours. In such instances, full or equitable amounts will be refunded. Refunds for unused carrier tickets may be only in accordance with the regulations of the carrier. CST 2064278-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. All legal questions will be settled within the jurisdiction of the County of San Francisco, California.

VISA: To obtain a Chinese visa, a passport is required that is valid for at least six months beyond the duration of the tour. Travelers are responsible for their own visas.

Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended and available. You will receive travel insurance information from either the Alumnae Association of Smith College or Dartmouth Alumni Travel once you are confirmed on the program.

Itinerary is subject to modification.

Prices are current as of August 2011 and are subject to change without notice

