



碧山
WILDCHINA

Traversing the Ancient Tea Horse Road with Jeff Fuchs

How *wild* is WildChina?

*What do we really mean by wild?
Here's what the Oxford English Dictionary says:*



wild *(adj)*

1. *(place) uninhabited; inhospitable*

Yes we go beyond the tourist circuit, but equally we love dining in world-class restaurants and drifting to sleep beneath Egyptian cotton sheets.

2. *(people) not civilized; primitive*

We help you see more closely: the monk texting friends between prayers, the Guilin rice farmer selling honey online. You'll rethink what civilized truly means.

3. *lacking discipline or restraint*

Most travel companies stick to the same itinerary - we build in flexibility for those wild and wonderful moments that make travel in China so special.

4. *very enthusiastic or excited*

Absolutely! The passion of our guides is contagious, whether it's Lao Wang sharing the secrets of taichi or explorer Jeff Fuchs on his favorite tea.

A Quick Summary

Day	Description	Your Accommodations
Day 1 (Sat Oct 15, 2022)	Arrive in Jinghong	Yourantai, Jinghong - Standard Room
Day 2 (Sun Oct 16, 2022)	Xishuangbanna	Yourantai, Jinghong - Standard Room
Day 3 (Mon Oct 17, 2022)	Xishuangbanna	Yourantai, Jinghong - Standard Room
Day 4 (Tue Oct 18, 2022)	Jinghong to Shaxi	Sunyata Hotel, Shaxi - Standard Room
Day 5 (Wed Oct 19, 2022)	Shaxi	Sunyata Hotel, Shaxi - Standard Room
Day 6 (Thu Oct 20, 2022)	Shaxi to Lijiang	Banyan Tree Lijiang - Garden Suite
Day 7 (Fri Oct 21, 2022)	Lijiang to Shangri-La	Songtsam Shangri-La (Lvgu) Lodge - Superior room
Day 8 (Sat Oct 22, 2022)	Shangri-La	Songtsam Shangri-La (Lvgu) Lodge - Superior room
Day 9 (Sun Oct 23, 2022)	Shangri-La	Songtsam Shangri-La (Lvgu) Lodge - Superior room
Day 10 (Mon Oct 24, 2022)	Depart Shangri-La	

Your Expert



Jeff Fuchs

“The ‘adventure’ aspect, the actual doing and grinding away over terrains and through communities gives one insights that no book or theory can.” Jeff Fuchs is an explorer, mountaineer, writer, and tea expert. He was the first Westerner to trek the entire Yunnan-Tibet Ancient Tea and Horse Road, an expedition spanning nearly 4,000 miles and lasting eight months. The journey resulted in the book *The Ancient Tea Horse Road*. Jeff serves as the Asian Editor at Large for *Outpost Magazine* and his photos and stories have been featured in a number of publications. His work is primarily focused on indigenous mountain cultures, oral histories, and the culture and cultivation of tea. Jeff was invited to speak at the 1st Annual North American Tea Conference in 2010 to share his knowledge and is currently Templar Food’s Global Tea Ambassador.

Your Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Jinghong

Saturday Oct 15, 2022



First Stop: Xishuangbanna

Xishuangbanna is just one of three names for Yunnan's southernmost prefecture – peopled and named by the Dai. Over the borders in Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand, travelers may hear Sipsongpanna or even Sibsongbanna. Whichever you hear, it will lead you to the same prefecture, to the jungles south of the southern clouds that hug the Mekong as it makes its way out of the mountains. Those same mountains and jungles that kept the region isolated over the centuries have become a destination unto themselves. Yet, their spectacular scenery and welcoming people are still relatively undiscovered by Southeast Asia's legions of travelers. Banna remains, as it always has been, a hidden enclave, tucked away in the greenery of southern China.

Your Journey Begins

Today is the day, the start of your WildChina adventure. Step off the plane in Jinghong and meet your local WildChina guide in the airport arrivals hall. They'll be waiting to welcome you and will have your private vehicle on standby, ready to whisk you off to your hotel for check in.

Welcome Dinner

Many have heard that, when dining in China, it is considered rude to finish all the food on the table. What hardly gets mentioned is the fact that it is nearly impossible to polish off the entire spread at a typical Chinese group meal; portions are huge and the variety of dishes is seemingly unending. Tonight, celebrate your arrival in the Middle Kingdom during a feast for your eyes and stomach as you get to know your guide and fellow travelers.

Meals included: dinner



Breakfast with Jeff

Start your day off with a relaxing breakfast while Jeff gives you an introduction to the ancient Tea and Horse Caravan Road

Drive along the Mengkong to Ganlanba

We will reach Ganlanba via a relaxing transfer along the Mekong River. The mighty Mekong River weaves through six different countries, influencing the landscape of the entire Indochinese Peninsula and serving as the lifeblood for many of the region's people. From its pristine origins in the Tibetan mountains, the river cuts through a narrow valley parallel to the Yangtze and Salween Rivers before it reaches Yunnan province in southwest China. We will pass beneath overhanging coconut palms and banana trees and come across one breathtaking scene after another, surrounded on all sides by what can best be described as simple, primordial beauty.

Arrive in Ganlanba

Ganlanba is nestled deep within the Mekong Basin and is known for the stilted bamboo houses and Buddhist pagodas hidden behind the verdant outgrowths lining the area. The area provides the most authentic examples of traditional Dai architecture and gives you a glimpse into a lifestyle harkening to a simpler time. The village is bustling with life; from the Dai men leading pack mules laden with bamboo and other harvested construction material to the graceful Dai women in colorful traditional ankle-length sarongs and woven bamboo hats carrying their bamboo baskets of mangos, pineapples and local handicrafts to the local markets.

Trek to a Dai Village

Trek to a secluded Dai minority village and discover a local monastery hidden in the hills. Related to both the Lao and Thai ethnic groups, the Dai people are known for their vibrant culture, colorful clothing and varied fusion cuisine. Inside the village, small bamboo huts seem to blend in perfectly with Buddhist pagodas standing in the shade of mango and pineapple trees. Nestled in a lush tropical landscape, the village is the perfect rest stop for travelers on the Ancient Tea and Horse Caravan Road.

Barbecue Dinner

Enjoy a sizzling barbecue dinner at a local restaurant in the countryside

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, and dinner



Visit the Local Menghai Market

In the morning, we drive west of Jinghong(1 hour) to the Menghai local food market, where indigenous people from the nearby mountains and valleys converge to sell and barter their local specialties, which range from wasp larvae to local swamp eels (and some of the best Pu'er teas available). Menghai continues to be one of the tea world's most tea-intensive towns so if you are not keen on swooping in on a discounted basketful of swamp eels you may still find it worthwhile to scour the stalls for a bundle of premium Pu'erh tea. The market is a photographer's paradise and an excellent place to witness the unpretentious hustle and bustle of local commerce.

Bulang Minority Village

Visit a Bulang minority village and meet the descendants of the first tea cultivators. Living high up in the mountains, the Bulang people (also known as Blang) are exceptional farmers growing rice, cotton, sugar cane, and tea. The region is home to China's famed fermented tea called Pu'er which is known for its unique flavor. The tea leaves are picked from the wild trees

growing at high altitudes and then undergo a special aging process, which results in the tea's distinctive earthy taste. Explore the village, mingle with the locals, and try exquisite varieties of Pu'er in an authentic setting.

Nannuo Mountain

Nannuo Mountain is the home of the Hani ethnic group, who are famous in Xishuangbanna for their harvesting and tea production.

We'll first transfer to Nannuo from Jinghong (a 40-minute drive). Then, accompanied by your WildChina guide, you will take a leisurely 2 to 3-hour hike over flat trail-like terrain. During the hike, you'll stop by a local family home and learn more about local culture. You'll also stumble across some of the oldest and largest tea trees in China. The oldest of these being the 800-year-old "King Tea Trees."

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Day 4: Jinghong to Shaxi

Tuesday Oct 18, 2022



On the way: Dali

Dali is a notable stop along the Ancient Tea and Horse Caravan Road in its own right, and upon arriving in Dali's Old Town we will enjoy a light lunch at a local cafe. As a focal point connecting the southwestern Silk Road and the Ancient Tea and Horse Road, Dali was a major exporting site for regions such as India and Afghanistan, and while this cultural crossroads deserves recognition we will be moving on to Shaxi after a quick stop due to the time constraints of our journey.

Flight to Dali

After an eventful few days in Xishuangbanna, it's finally time to move on and after exchanging final farewells with your Aini homestay hosts your WildChina team will escort you to the airport for your flight to Dali. Upon reaching Dali, your local WildChina guide will meet you at the airport with your private vehicle on standby, ready to transfer you to Dali Old Town.

Lunch in Dali's Old Town

Protected from bandits and invaders by 6-meter-deep stone walls, Dali was once an important outpost on trade routes that spanned Tibet and Southeast Asia, and has been the center of the Bai universe for more than a thousand years. Today, this charming checkerboard town of crisscrossing streams and lanes has become a popular stop-off for travelers, and you'll no doubt find yourself swept up in Dali's irresistibly laid-back vibe as you wander its narrow lanes enjoy a light lunch before continuing to Shaxi.

Next Stop: Shaxi

Shaxi, a beautifully preserved market town nestled in the idyllic rural landscape halfway between Lijiang and Dali. The town was once a bustling outpost where horses and tea, among other exotic goods, changed hands en route to Burma and Tibet. With Buddhist grottoes, lively weekend markets, and delightfully simple rural cuisine sourced straight from the surrounding farmland, Shaxi is packed with cultural intrigue and pastoral charm.

Arrive in Shaxi

The ride from Dali to Shaxi will take around 1.5 hours. Upon arriving, we will have ample time to explore Shaxi's rich cultural heritage tomorrow, so after a visit to Shaxi's Old Town and a traditional Bai dinner we recommend you spend the remainder of the evening resting up.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Day 5: Shaxi

Wednesday Oct 19, 2022



Shaxi

Spend the day following the Ancient Tea and Horse Caravan Road through Shaxi's sloping valleys, brushing past golden barley and canola fields

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Day 6: Shaxi to Lijiang

Thursday Oct 20, 2022



Hike Through Shibaoshan

The magnificent rock carvings of the 1,300-year-old Shibaoshan Grottoes showcase the dissemination of Mahayana Buddhism along the Tea and Horse Caravan Trail from Tibet to Yunnan province. After a twenty-minute walk through a serene bamboo forest we will reach our ideal vantage point, and from there we will take a two-hour trek down the mountain back to Shaxi, soaking in an unadulterated panoramic view of the entire valley as we make our descent.

Next Stop: Lijiang

The city of Lijiang lies in the shadow of Jade Dragon Snow Mountain and has entranced visitors for centuries with its singular architecture, quaint bridges, and narrow canals. Although Lijiang has transformed from its quaint roots into a tourist hub, there are still quieter side lanes to explore that hold encounters with Lijiang's Naxi residents, who, like their ancestors, depend on the mountain water that flows through the town's canals. As a town that was twice destroyed by natural disasters but rebounded to play a role on the modern Tea

Horse Road, Lijiang is an enduring cultural bastion.

Drive to Lijiang and an Evening at Leisure

Once we have returned to Shaxi, we will grab lunch at a local restaurant prior to embarking on our two and a half hour drive to Lijiang. By the time we arrive in Lijiang, you will likely feel the need to stretch your legs and after checking in to the hotel, the evening can be spent at your own leisure.

Meals included: breakfast and lunch



Lijiang Old Town

The intricate network of canals and cobbled lanes that make up Lijiang Old Town constitute a dreamlike scene, and it is that charm, along with its inscription onto UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1997, that makes this town among the most popular travel destinations in the country. Your WildChina guide will lead you down some of the quieter lanes with less visitors.

Here, we will also be coming across yet another cultural minority along the trade route: the Naxi. Descendants of Tibetan nomadic tribes, the Naxi traditionally operates under a unique matriarchal society in which marriage is not widely practiced. The Naxi are renowned for their traditional music, shamanistic rituals, and animist Dongba faith. Their language, style of dress and cuisine are distinct from those of Tibetans and Han Chinese, and it should be noted that many Naxi are fairly reserved and may be reluctant to having their pictures taken.

Drive to Shangri-La

After meandering through Lijiang, we continue 4.5 hours north towards Shangri-la, passing by Shigu Old Town, which provides a breath-taking panoramic view of the fabled First Bend of the Yangtze. Flowing from its source on the Tibet-Qinghai border, the Yangtze River has sustained civilization in China for millennia and continues to supply four hundred million people with water for personal consumption, crop irrigation, and fishing. Unfortunately, China's furious economic development is causing serious environmental damage to the river and, like many other beautiful parts of China its future is marked by uncertainty. We will take a tea break at a roadside stop and discuss the significance of the area. Jeff will explain the highlights of the Mongolian invasion and this juncture's role as the splitting point for the Tea Horse Road caravans.

On the Way: Tiger Leaping Gorge

Legend has it that whilst fleeing a hunter through the mountains of northern Yunnan, a tiger leapt across the raging rapids blocking its escape. This is how Tiger Leaping Gorge got its name, but its reputation comes from epic hiking trails shared with local shepherds and farmers that deliver views of outstanding natural beauty below. The hike is not for the fainthearted, after all, this is one of the deepest gorges in the world at 3,790 meters deep.

Next Stop: Shangri-La

Known as Gyalthang in Tibetan, the city of Zhongdian, was officially rechristened 'Shangri-La' after the mythical paradise described in James Hilton's *Lost Horizon*. Located on a broad valley on the Tibetan Plateau at an altitude of 3,200 meters (10,500 feet), surrounded by snow-capped peaks, primeval forests, and lakes, the town was a gateway to the historic Tibetan province of Kham and an important station for trade caravans along the Ancient Tea and Horse Caravan Trail. Today, it remains an important center for Yunnan's Tibetan community.

(Upon arrival, time will be allotted for you to acclimate to the thin air and high altitude)

An Evening to Yourself

Upon arriving in Shangri-La, check into your room and spend the remainder of the evening at your leisure.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, and dinner



Songzanlin Monastery

Known as Little Potala for its resemblance to the palace of the Dalai Lama in Lhasa, Songzanlin is the biggest Tibetan monastery in Yunnan and is currently home to 700 monks. Wander through incense-filled halls and past gilded copper pillars while rubbing shoulders with the red-robed devotees who gather here in their hundreds to study Buddhist scriptures and meditate by the orange light of butter-oil lamps.

Shangri-La Old Town

Afterward, we will head to Shangri-la's Old Town for a light lunch. Named after the Tibetan utopia in James Hilton's 1933 novel *Lost Horizon*, the old town of Shangri-La is an atmospheric assemblage of narrow winding lanes, white stupas, and colorful markets selling jewelry, prayer flags, and other accouterments of Tibetan culture. Half of the original 1,300-year-old town burned down in a fire in 2014, but much has been rebuilt in a traditional style since. Take your time exploring the Old Town and various significant points at your own pace, and afterward, rest your legs with a tea break with Jeff and enjoy a brief talk about

Shangri-la's importance along the Tea Horse Road.

Meals included: breakfast and lunch



Napahai Lake

We will continue our journey along Tea Horse Road, hiking a portion of the trail which takes us near Napahai Lake. Along the way, we will pass local villages which make up part of Shangri-La and make our ascent up a hill which overlooks the entire grassland and seasonal Napahai Lake, which is fed by snowmelt from the nearby mountains in the summer and recedes to form a lush grassland during the dry season.

Around September the lake serves as a temporary paradise for flocks of migratory birds, ranging from bar-headed geese to black-necked cranes, one of the rarest bird species left on earth. After several months the lake melts away and camouflages with the surrounding grassland, infusing the area with fresh biomass and mineral sediment which provides a natural bounty for local herdsman looking for a place to graze their sheep and cattle.

Nixi Village

Stop by to admire the handicrafts and learn about local crafts in Nixi Village and the surrounding area. Nixi Village, situated on the Yangtze River, is best known for its black pottery. We can pay a visit to the artisan village to watch the local craftsmen knead, fashion and fire their famous black clay products.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Day 10: Depart Shangri-La

Monday Oct 24, 2022



Your Flight Back Home

After breakfast, your WildChina team will transfer you to the airport and help you check in for your departure flight, bringing your WildChina journey to an end. Make sure you take some of your favorite tea with you and enjoy a nice cuppa when you get home

Your Accommodations

Yourantai, Jinghong

Gazing out over the mighty Mekong River, Yourantai - meaning 'a terrace of serenity' in Chinese - sits on a lush patch of rubber plantation in tropical Jinghong. Inspired by Dai architecture, the lodge was constructed by local carpenters using traditional methods, with much of the wood being salvaged from old Dai village houses. Inside, each guestroom is comfortably appointed with a cozy blend of local textiles and antique Chinese furniture and features beautiful views of the surrounding forest and river. Fuel up on homemade juices and jams made with fruit picked from the garden before a day of exploring the city's bustling markets, then unwind once you return with a cuppa in the outdoor tea pavilion. And rest easy knowing that Yourantai has sustainability in mind, with organic waste serving as compost for the on-site garden, wastewater being treated and then absorbed by the neighboring banana plants, and much of the heating coming from solar energy.

Address: 18 Galan North Road, Jinghong, 666100

Phone: +86 138 8793 4096 / +86 186 911612091

Room Type: Standard Room



Sunyata Hotel, Shaxi

Ideally located near Shaxi Old Town, Sunyata Hotel Shaxi is a celebration of the local culture. Featuring a fusion of Bai Minority design and modern Chinese garden style, four unique courtyards, and elements evoking the caravan culture of the Tea and Horse Road, this 20-room boutique hotel is ideal for travelers wanting a beautiful yet authentic haven. With warm woods, soothing earth tones, and natural elements, the well-furnished rooms are a comfortable retreat after a day exploring. Please note that while the hotel's client servicing team is welcoming and helpful, their English language ability may vary. Your guide will be happy to translate for you as needed.

Address: 115 Sideng Village, Shaxi Town, Jianchuan County, 671302

剑川县沙溪镇寺登村115号

Phone: +86 087 2472 1568

Room Type: Standard Room



Banyan Tree Lijiang

The Banyan Tree Lijiang blends traditional Naxi ethnic minority architecture and hospitality with modern elegance and unsurpassed amenities to create a refuge of calm amidst Lijiang's hustle and bustle. This 5-star resort uses local ingredients to immerse its guests in that oasis, enticing tastebuds with elevated Yunnanese classics at their signature restaurants and relaxing the mind in the Banyan Tree Spa. Ensnared a 15-minute drive from the Lijiang Old Town, close to Shuhe Old Town, the Banyan Tree Lijiang is truly an escape for the senses.

Address: Yuerong Road, Shuhe, Gucheng District, Lijiang, 674100
丽江 古城区 束河悦榕路 束河古镇

Phone: +86 088 8533 1666

Room Type: Garden Suite



Songtsam Shangri-La (Lvgu) Lodge

Sitting at the foot of the temple that lends the hotel its name and dominates the skyline, the Songtsam Shangri-La (Lvgu) Lodge is housed in a traditional Tibetan dwelling, the perfect retreat for travelers at the end of a long day's sightseeing. Upon retiring to your room, admire the hotel's collection of handpicked furniture and intricately woven carpets, effortlessly combining both modern comfort and Tibetan style in a delicate balancing act. Relax in the library with a copy of *Paradise Lost*, browse Tibetan art and jewelry, sip tea in the courtyard, and sample traditional spicy Tibetan dishes. In this hotel, the Tibetan experience is extended to each one of the five senses without sacrificing an ounce of elegance.

Address: Next to the Songzanlin Monastery, Shangri-La, 674400

香格里拉 松赞林寺旁

Phone: +86 088 7828 8889

Room Type: Superior room



Your Quotation

Price Includes

- All on-ground transfers with in-transport refreshments
- Services of a WildChina English-speaking guide and expert, as noted in the itinerary
- All accommodation costs, based on double-occupancy, as noted in the itinerary
- All admission fees and expenses, as noted in the itinerary
- All meals, as noted in the itinerary, and drinking water.
- Airport transfers to/from international flights at the start and end of your trip, as listed in the itinerary

Price Excludes

- International and domestic flights and relevant taxes (domestic flight costs are listed separately in your quote)
- Chinese tourist visa, which is required for most foreign passport holders
- Medical insurance
- Travel insurance
- Alcohol and meals not included in the itinerary
- Expenses of a personal nature (e.g. mini bar, personal telecommunications, laundry, etc.)
- Excursions and activities not included in the itinerary
- Discretionary gratuities for guides and drivers

Trip Costs

Total Price: On Request

Confirm This Trip

All pricing is in USD

Payments can be made in USD, HKD, or RMB. Please let your travel designer know your preferred payment method and they will prepare your invoice accordingly.

Contact Us

Before your trip:

You can reach out to your travel designer or one of our offices in the US, the UK, or Beijing with questions.

US Office: +1 888 902 8808

China Office: +86 10 6465 6602

Via WeChat: @wildchina_journeys



During your trip:

Your travel designer is always your first port of call if you have questions and they'll check in with you regularly too.

Out of Hours or in an Emergency:

In case you need to get in touch outside of normal office hours, or in case of emergencies on trip, please contact your travel designer (contact information can be found in their email signature).

Stay in the Loop:

Stay up-to-date with what's happening here at WildChina and here in China by signing up for our newsletter [here](#).

Next Steps

Once you're ready to confirm your trip, we'll ask you for USD\$500 per booking (if you're traveling internationally) or 1,000RMB per person (if you're traveling from within China) as a deposit so that we can start securing you the best guides and hotel rooms. This will go towards your trip costs and will be taken off your final balance amount. This deposit is refundable for any reason until 30 days prior to your departure.*

**If there are any non-refundable bookings we need to make on your behalf, we'll tell you upfront. Please note that other deposit terms might apply to group journeys and expert-led tours.*

For full booking terms and conditions please [click here](#).

Travel Insurance

We highly recommend you purchase adequate travel insurance as soon as possible in order to mitigate the effects of any unforeseen circumstances.

Quote Validity

This quotation is listed in U.S. dollars and Chinese renminbi based on the exchange on the day of quoting. In the event of a 2.5% or higher change in exchange rate, WildChina reserves the right to adjust this quotation in a fair and reasonable manner. Prices and availability are not guaranteed until booking.

Health and Safety at WildChina

In response to COVID-19, we've updated our health and safety procedures. We will continue to monitor the situation and update these policies accordingly.

WildChina guides, drivers, and staff

Additional training: Our team practices social distancing outside of work hours and every staff member has received additional training on identifying risk factors and symptoms linked to COVID-19.

China's green health code: Prior to every journey, we will ensure that any WildChina team members you'll meet along the way hold a green health code from the Chinese government. In addition to this, we will hold a briefing with each guide and ensure they have been fever-free for 4 weeks prior to the travel date.

Face masks and hand sanitizer: All of our staff and representatives will wear a face mask for the duration of your journey. Your guide will carry hand sanitizer that is at least 65% alcohol proof and will regularly wash their hands using soap and water.

Hotels and Restaurants

Operational requirements: In order to operate, hotels and restaurants in China are required to meet government requirements for COVID-19 health and safety. We'll inform you of the specific regulations for each hotel you'll be staying in. Beyond the government requirements, we will also personally audit hotels and restaurants to ensure our standards are met and that we, and you, know exactly what to expect.

Contact Us

The true face and heroes of WildChina, our guides have been rigorously selected for their combination of local knowledge and likable personalities.



Working Hours:

Guide working hours are 8 hours maximum per day unless otherwise indicated in the itinerary. If the guide hours are extended, at your request, overtime charges will be billed to you at the end of your trip.

Meals:

In general, WildChina guides will be busy arranging and confirming afternoon activities during meals, so a separate table will be provided for them to eat. They will always be there to assist and help you with any problems during the meal, pick out local specialties, and show you their favorite dishes.

Tipping:

While tips are widely accepted, we would like to stress that this is at your own personal discretion. While everyone is recommended to tip based on services rendered, our clients often ask that we provide some basic guidelines.

WildChina guide:

1 person: \$20-\$30/day • Group of 2: \$15-25 per person/day • Group of 3-5: \$15 per person/day • Group of 6-10: \$10 per person/day

WildChina driver:

The driver may sometimes receive a tip of 50% of what the guide receives. In places where roads are rough and dangerous, the driver may sometimes receive an equal amount of tipping as the WildChina guide.

Travel Advice

Travel Advice

Visa Advice

Nearly all foreign visitors to Mainland China will require a visa. WildChina will provide an invitation letter for your visa application but we are not able to obtain a visa on your behalf. It is your responsibility to obtain a valid visa and any other required documentation for your journey. We recommend applying for a tourist visa approximately 60 days prior to your scheduled departure date.

Your WildChina trip designer will send you detailed information regarding visas upon booking. If you would like more advice on Chinese visas at this stage, please consult China Visa Solution (www.chinavisaforyou.com), our preferred agent for U.S. residents. If you're traveling from outside of the USA, VisaCentral (www.visacentral.com) is our preferred agent choice.

Health Information

We highly recommend visiting your physician at least 6 weeks before your departure date, to ensure it's possible for you to participate in all the activities of your journey. It is also important to ensure you have the correct vaccinations for your trip. As some vaccines may need to be taken over the course of weeks or months, it is best to visit a physician as early as possible. For detailed information, visit the Centers for Disease Control's China page at:

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/china>

If any travelers on your journey have special requirements, please notify us prior to booking so that we can ensure your trip is compatible.

Traveling during the COVID-19 pandemic

Health and safety requirements for different sites and regions of China vary. We will let you know in advance what the restrictions are in your destination and monitor the situation closely in the lead up to your trip. It is your responsibility to have the documents and health codes required for travel.



Why WildChina

We're on the ground with you

Our team of advisors will design every detail of the trip with you through close consultation, then orchestrate your entire journey while on the ground. We're in the same time zone as you, so we can fulfill requests and handle issues without a hitch. With over 40 staff in Beijing and an expansive network of operational partners across the country, we have the manpower to ensure your journey is safe, reliable and comfortable from beginning to end.

Your trip, your way

Flexibility is our highest-ranking compliment. We pull off journeys for pioneers with a 6-hour layover to Hollywood's elite, and everywhere in between. Our team regularly pulls off unprecedented logistical feats; nearly any time frame or budget is within our realm. No matter how you wish to experience China, we are here to bring that dream to life.

We embody passion

WildChina guides are carefully handpicked for their knowledge and charisma, then meticulously trained to maintain our exceptional service standards. They are expert storytellers and passionate natives of the regions where they guide, having the perfect combination of local insights and service know-how to bring you seamless once-in-a-lifetime moments all across China.

The little things, the big picture

Supporting inspired local economies allows you to experience the soul of the destination, while also protecting and cultivating China's artisanal culture. From watching artisans hand make shoes in Yunnan, to picking organic vegetables for dinner on a local farm in Fujian, our tours are designed to showcase and protect China's heritage, both natural and human.

