An Exclusive Small Group Tour for Alumni & Friends of the MSU Alumni Association

October 1-14, 2013

This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, six-time honoree Travel & Leisure’s World’s Best Tour Operators award.

14 days for $4,634 total price from Detroit
($4,095 air, land & cruise inclusive plus $539 airline taxes and departure fees)
Tour membership limited to 24 MSU alumni and friends

**CLASSIC CHINA & THE YANGTZE**

14 days for $4,634 total price from Detroit
($4,095 air, land & cruise inclusive plus $539 airline taxes and departure fees)

Comprehensive in scope yet briefer in duration than many China tours, this relaxed, well-paced journey combines monumental Beijing, a cruise on the fabled Yangtze, fascinating Xian, and cosmopolitan Shanghai. Traveling in your prized small group, you’ll have the good fortune to meet local people and to experience a host of China’s highlights, both ancient and of the moment.

**Day 1: Depart U.S. for Beijing, China**

**Day 2: Arrive Beijing** We arrive in the Chinese capital and transfer to our hotel. After time to relax we meet our tour director for a walking tour of the area surrounding our hotel. Dinner is on our own. **B,D**

**Day 3: Beijing** After this morning’s briefing with our tour director, we begin our discovery of this 2,000-year-old city at vast — and infamous — Tiananmen Square, and the Forbidden City, seat of imperial power during the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911). Tonight we enjoy a traditional Peking Duck dinner at a local restaurant. **B,D**

**Day 4: Beijing/Great Wall** Our day begins with a rickshaw ride through Beijing's ancient back roads and alleys (hutongs). Here we visit the home of a local family for a rare glimpse of the traditional communal lifestyle that is fast disappearing. Then we make a brief photo stop at Olympic Park, site of the 2008 Olympic Games. This afternoon we encounter the Great Wall, the incredible collection of ancient defense installations (and UNESCO World Heritage site) that stretches more than 5,500 miles and where we visit the Mu Tian Yu section by cable car. **B,L,D**

**Day 5: Beijing** This morning we tour the splendid Temple of Heaven complex where China’s emperors once worshipped. Later this afternoon we tour the Summer Palace, the former royal retreat with beautiful gardens and temples that is now a park attracting both visitors and locals. **B,L**

**Day 6: Beijing/Xian** This morning we fly to Xian, once among the world’s greatest cities that devolved into a provincial backwater until the
Day 7: Xian  Our day begins at Small Wild Goose Pagoda (c. 652 CE), among China’s most acclaimed Buddhist temples. After lunch we visit the museum housing the renowned Terra Cotta Warriors, the more than 7,000 life-sized soldiers created to guard China’s first emperor in the afterlife. We see these astounding pieces, each with an individually sculpted face, standing in military formation in three separate vaults. The entire complex is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. \textit{B,L,D}

Day 8: Xian/Chongqing  This morning we fly to Chongqing, where we visit the zoo housing the beloved pandas. Following dinner at a local restaurant, we board our Victoria Cruises ship and set sail this evening. \textit{B,L,D}

Day 9: Yangtze Cruising – Fengdu  Prized for its haunting natural beauty, the Yangtze is one of the world’s busiest and longest (3,600 miles) rivers. This morning we visit one of its most popular towns, the “ghost city” of Fengdu. On board this afternoon a river guide tells us about the Yangtze and the Three Gorges Dam then we enjoy a talk on Chinese medicine. Tonight: Captain’s Welcome Dinner. \textit{B,L,D}

Day 10: Yangtze Cruising – Qutang Gorge/Lesser Gorges/Wu Gorge/Xiling Gorge  After traversing Qutang, the shortest of the Three Gorges, mid-day we disembark in Wushan to board a small ferry for an excursion along the Daning River to the stunning Lesser Gorges. Lined with sheer cliffs and steep mountains, the Lesser Gorges recall scenes from ancient Chinese scroll paintings. Back on board our Yangtze ship late afternoon, we enter beautiful and tranquil Wu Gorge, then reach the scenic western section of 42-mile long Xiling Gorge, with swift rapids and churning whirlpools. Later tonight we enter the locks of the immense Three Gorges Dam. \textit{B,L,D}

Day 11: Yangtze Cruising – Three Gorges Dam/Xiling Gorges/Shanghai  We tour the site of the immense Three Gorges Dam Project this morning then continue cruising through Xiling Gorge and Gezhouba Dam to Yichang. Here we disembark and fly to Shanghai, the “Paris of the East.” \textit{B,L}

China’s Great Wall winds across deserts and grasslands, mountains and plateaus for more than 5,500 miles.

accidental discovery of the Terra Cotta Warriors in 1974—considered among the most significant archaeological finds of the 20th century. This afternoon, we tour Xian’s impressive nine-mile city wall and moat. Tonight, we enjoy a special dinner of traditional Chinese dumplings. \textit{B,L,D}

Shanghai – On Your Own 3 days/2 nights for $245 total price

Your Tour Price Includes
- 2 nights’ accommodations at Hilton Shanghai (Deluxe)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport


Single supplement: $195

Spend additional time exploring dynamic Shanghai, China’s most prosperous, vibrant, and cosmopolitan city.

Shanghai, China’s most prosperous, vibrant, and cosmopolitan city.
Day 12: Shanghai  Our day begins with a walking tour of the Xin Tian Di shopping and entertainment area of reconstituted traditional homes. We continue on to beloved 16th-century Yu Yuan Gardens, whose plantings, courtyards, and pavilions create the illusion of mountains, caverns, and lakes. After lunch together we tour the acclaimed Shanghai Museum of ancient Chinese art and artifacts. Tonight we dine on our own then attend an acrobatics show.  

Day 13: Shanghai  This morning we visit the Bund, the mile-long riverside embankment where foreign investors – and their buildings – once held sway over Shanghai. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight we toast our China adventure at a farewell dinner.

Day 14: Depart for U.S. We depart Shanghai for our return flights to the U.S.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 12 nights’ accommodations: 3 nights aboard Superior First Class ship of Victoria Cruises; 9 nights in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 29 meals: 12 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip, including shore excursions
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Warm smiles welcome us to China.

Tour Departs: October 1, 2013

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

- Los Angeles, San Francisco $4,234
- Portland (OR), Seattle $4,434
- Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix $4,634
- Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Miami, Orlando, Tampa, Washington, DC $4,734
- Land Only (transfers not included) $3,395

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy in an outside cabin and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees of $539, which are subject to change until final payment is made. Single travelers please add $995. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, fuel surcharges and departure fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Pacific flight: $3,495 per person (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Due to Chinese visa restrictions, no new registrations can be accepted within 45 days of the tour.

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of walking on stairs and uneven surfaces. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765
Monday-Friday, 9:00am-7:00pm, Eastern Time
Or call The MSU Alumni Association toll-free at 888-697-2863
Dear MSU Alumni and Friends,

The MSU Alumni Association invites you to travel with us this fall on an exclusive and comprehensive journey through China. Led by an experienced local tour director, your small group of no more than 24 guests will see China as never before. From the capital of Beijing, to fascinating Xian, the fabled Yangtze River and cosmopolitan Shanghai, you will experience China’s ancient past and its fast-moving present on this illuminating tour.

Begin in 2000-year-old Beijing, China’s modern-day capital. See its legendary sites including Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven, and, of course, the Great Wall. Enjoy a special rickshaw ride along Beijing’s ancient alleyways, or hutongs, where you will experience a traditional way of life which is fast disappearing as the city rushes to modernize. Continue to Xian, site of the excavated army of more than 7,000 life-size terra-cotta warriors, which has been called the Eighth Wonder of the World. Next, board a Victoria Cruises ship at Chongqing for a three-night cruise on the Yangtze, one of the world’s longest and busiest rivers. Witness daily life along the river’s shores and see the spectacular Three Gorges, and the much-heralded new dam. Your tour concludes in Shanghai, a dazzling city that epitomizes 21st-century China. A 3-day/2-night tour extension in Shanghai is available for those who wish to continue exploring this dynamic city on their own.

This small-group, air-inclusive program is limited to just 24 MSU alumni and friends. Please register today to ensure your space on what promises to be a fascinating tour of China.

Sincerely,

Regina Cross
Travel Coordinator

THE MSU RESERVATION FORM: CLASSIC CHINA & THE YANGTZE

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $______($500 per person) for ____ people on Classic China & the Yangtze departing October 1, 2013. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and mail deposit check (along with completed reservation form) to: Odysseys Unlimited, One Newton Place, 275 Washington St., Suite 300, Newton, MA 02458. Or, call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765. You may also call the MSU Alumni Association toll-free at 888-697-2863.

Full Passport Name ___________________________ Date of Birth ___________________ Gender_____
Full Passport Name ___________________________ Date of Birth ___________________ Gender_____
Address ______________________________________________________________________________________________
City _________________________________________________________ State ____________ ZIP __________________
Home Ph. ( ______ )________________________________ Alternate Ph. ( ______ )_____________________________
E-mail ____________________________________________ Badge Name(s) ____________________________________

Please book my/our air from ________________________ I/we request a Business Class upgrade ❑
I will share a room with __________________________ I request a single room (limited availability) ❑
Post-Tour “Shanghai - On Your Own” Extension: Please sign me/us up ❑

Please note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Classic China & the Yangtze, October 1-14, 2013, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) ___________________________ Date ________________

Method of Payment

❑ Check ❑ American Express ❑ Discover ❑ MasterCard ❑ VISA
Account #________________________________________________________ Exp. Date_____________________
Name of Cardholder ______________________________________________
Signature ________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure and can be paid by check or credit card.
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a $500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not included in tour price
Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities $10 - $15 per day per traveler); travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

Cancellations, refunds and changes
If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: Cancel 95 days or more before departure: $200 charge; Cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; Cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; Cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; Cancel 29-0 days before departure: No refund. If a guest makes any changes to their reservation between 94 and 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a $100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.

Upon making your reservation you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, your date of birth, and your gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket’s reissue.

Responsibility
The liability of the MSU Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. The MSU Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Michigan State University Alumni Association Membership Statement
Travelers, whether alumni or friends, must be current MSUAA members to participate in Association travel offerings. For more information on membership rates, call the MSU Alumni Association at (877) 678-2586. You may also join on-line at www.alumni.msu.edu. Tour reservations will be confirmed upon verification of Alumni Association membership. Membership dues are non-refundable.

Travel Insurance
We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Association.