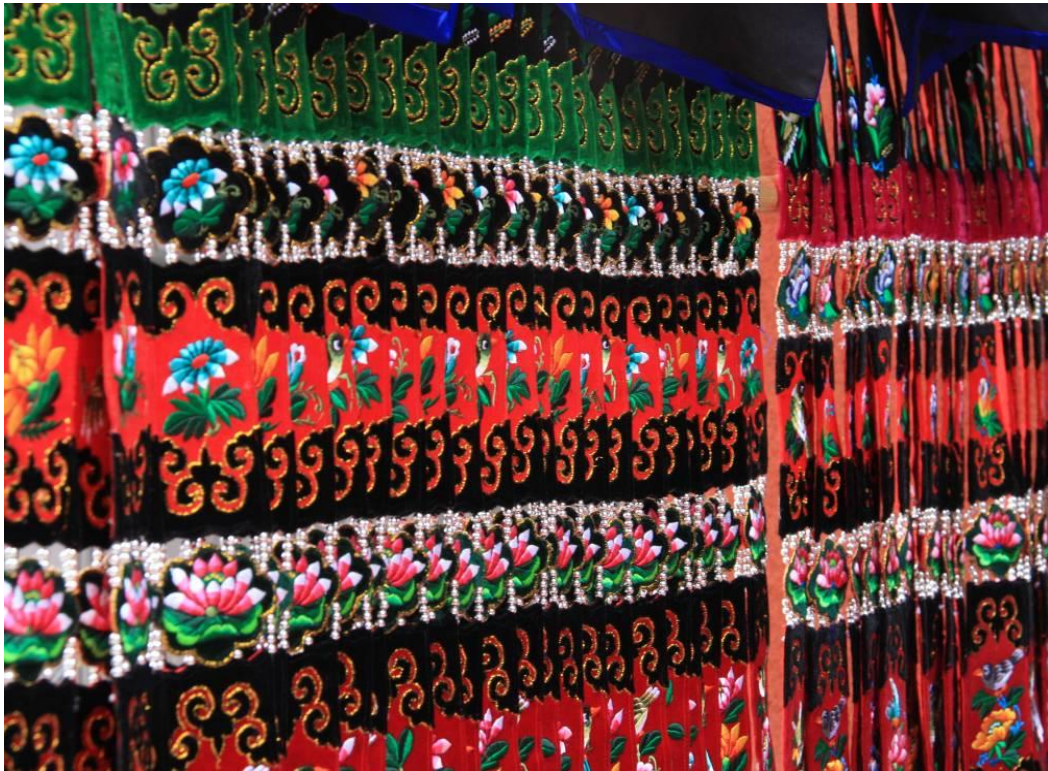


Minority Tribes in Guizhou

*Discovering the minorities through its
handicraft & LuSheng Festival*



Guaranteed Departure
November 3 – 12, 2012 China Package
USA departure is on November 2, 2012

TRIP OVERVIEW

In Guizhou, they say the men envy the tiger for its strength and the tiger envies the women of their splendor. Few visitors make the effort to reach one of China's most remote provinces, but for those who do, a rich feast for the senses awaits. This tour is centered on the abundant artistic traditions of Guizhou that give the women of this mountain province their famed magnificence. Under the expert eye of local artisans, you will try your hand at silver working, embroidery and pottery. Nothing beats studying a culture than learning from the source, with the many and varied minority cultures of Guizhou delighted to share their time honored crafts with outsiders. It's time for you to slow down and appreciate village life for the Miao and Dong people.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover a varied mixture of minority cultures in remotest parts of rural China
- Hike to the backdrop of Guizhou's most gorgeous scenery
- Tuck into the local cuisine for some honest rustic cooking
- Try your hand at local crafts for the chance to make your own souvenirs such as silver working, papercut, embroidery
- Interact with local people through the medium of art
- Celebrate Lusheng festival with the local people

Duration: 10 days, 09 nights

Itinerary at a glance: Guiyang - Kaili - Zhenyuan - Kaili - Guiyang

Departure Date: Nov 03-12, 2012

Difficulty Level*: 3

Comfort Level*: Comfort

**please refer to the appendix for all activity levels and accommodation types*

DESTINATION MAPS

Map of China



Area of Visit



DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

Day 01: Arrive in Guiyang Nov 03, 2012

Fly to Guiyang from major cities of China. Guiyang, which literally means “precious sunlight”, is the capital city of Guizhou province, and situated on the east of Yunnan-Guiyang Plateau. Upon arrival, we transfer to the hotel and have a walk, as the night market is especially popular in this city.

Included: d

Transfer times: 40 minutes driving/flying

Activity Level: 2-3 hours city walk

Overnight in Guiyang

4 Option: Regal Hotel or Similar <http://www.gzregal.com.cn/>*

Day 02: Guiyang Nov 04, 2012

This morning we walk to the central square of Guiyang, where we can join locals for their morning disco dance and practices. After breakfast, transfer to the Old Han Village, where the descendants of troops from Nanjing live, and the people still dress in traditional Han costume. The villagers specialize in a type of local art, called “Ground Opera”, which literally means “theatre on the ground”. Watch a private opera show played by amateur villagers wearing hand-made masks and afterwards, learn how the opera masks are made.

Included: b, l

Transfer times: 2-3 hours driving

Activity Level: 2-3 hours city walk

Overnight in Guiyang

4 Option: Regal Hotel or Similar <http://www.gzregal.com.cn/>*



Day 03: Guiyang to Kaili Nov 05, 2012

Today we drive to Kaili, the capital of Miao & Dong Minority Autonomous Region. It is the center of Miao minority culture, hosting more than 120 local festivals every year. The Miao people are known for arts and crafts, including jewelry, embroidery, brocade, batik and paper cutting. En route we will stop at Tonggu village, where local Miao women paint impressions from their daily life in water color. Join them for a primitive painting.

Included: b, l

Transfer times: 3.5 hours driving

Activity Level: 2-3 hours city walk

Overnight in Kaili

4 Option: Heaven-sent Dragon Hotel or Similar*

Day 04: Kaili Nov 06, 2012

Walk around the local market in the backstreets of Kaili. Then visit Kaili Museum, which introduces the ethnic people of the area with original photos and costumes. Visit a local Miao embroidery expert at Wenxiang Village and take the opportunity to try embroidery by yourselves.



Included: b, l

Transfer times: 2-3 hours driving

Activity Level: 3-4 hours walking

Overnight in Kaili

4 Option: Heaven-sent Dragon Hotel or Similar*

Day 05: Kaili to Zhengyuan Nov 07, 2012

Today we visit Zhenyuan, a delightful old town on the Wuyan River, home to Qinglong (Black Dragon) Cave, an outstanding Taoist Buddhist temple complex dating from 1530. En route, stop at Shuangjing village for traditional paper cutting. Visit Black Dragon Cave and walk around the ancient town.

Included: b, l

Transfer times: 3 hours driving

Activity Level: 2-3 hours walking

Overnight in Zhenyuan

3 Option: Taiji Hotel or similar*

Day 06: Zhenyuan to Kaili Nov 08, 2012

Today we'll witness three important handicraft arts of Miao people. The first is paper cutting, a very distinct visual art of Chinese Handicrafts in Shidong town, hometown of the Miao people's paper cutting tradition. In the same town, we will also see the 2nd art – silver smithing. The Miao people are famous for the exquisite art and skill of silver smithing. We visit a famous local silversmith and learn the story behind the traditional ornaments. Last but not least, we drive to Shiqiao village and watch the process of paper-making.

Included: b, l

Transfer times: 2 hours driving

Activity Level: 3-4 hours walking in the town

Overnight in Kaili

4 Option: Heaven-sent Dragon Hotel or Similar*

Day 07: Kaili Nov 09, 2012

The Lusheng Festival is a magical time of the year when all the unmarried men and women of the village gather for this colorful ceremony to choose a partner. There's an abundance

of bright costumes and decorations, as well as performances with the traditional Lusheng pipes.

Included: b, l

Transfer times: 5-6 hours driving

Activity Level: 4-5 hours walking in the town and paddy fields

Overnight in Kaili

4 Option: Heaven-sent Dragon Hotel or Similar*



Day 08: Leishan (Festival) Nov 10, 2012

Visit Paika Village that famous for its Lusheng Pipe Making. Lusheng Pipes, namely Miao bamboo pipe, mostly played at festivals related to courtship, such as Lusheng Festival. In the village, we meet local crafter, who has decade experience of Lusheng Pipe Making; make your Lusheng and learn to play it.

Enjoy the festival of **Miao New Year Celebration** at the rest of the day, by then over 3,000 people in full dress while parading, what a eye's feast!

Included: b, l

Transfer times: 1-2 hours driving

Activity Level: 3-4 hours walking in the town and paddy fields

Overnight in Kaili

4 Option: Heaven-sent Dragon Hotel or Similar*

Day 09: Huangping (Festival) Nov 11, 2012

Transfer to Huangping for another day of **Lusheng festival celebration**.

Included: b, l

Transfer times: 2-3 hours driving

Activity Level: 3-4 hours walking in the town and paddy fields

Overnight in Kaili

4 Option: Heaven-sent Dragon Hotel or Similar*

Day 10: Depart Guiyang Nov 12, 2012

Transfer the airport and take a flight back home. End of Service.

QUOTATION

LANDSERVICE Group Rate USD 2,196 per person
 COST *Based on*
4 hotel* *Single Supplement* USD 273 per person

DOMESTIC Beijing/Guiyang Return Ticket or Shanghai/Guiyang Return
 FLIGHT TICKET Ticket (economy class, including airport tax and fuel surcharge)

SERVICE • Accommodation in selected hotels in standard room (2-person
 INCLUDES sharing) with bath/shower and WC.
 • All transfers mentioned in the program with private
 air-conditioned car/coach
 • Entrance fee for all sights mentioned in the program.
 • Fees for all activities mentioned in the program
 • Private English speaking tour guide for all mentioned program.
 • Meals mentioned in the program
 • 24 hours customer service telephone hotline (English speaking)
 • Drinking water on coach
 • Water, tea and coffee during meals

SERVICE • Chinese Tourist Visa
 NOT • International flight with tax and fuel surcharge
 INCLUDES • Alcohol beverage
 • Gratuities for guides and drivers
 • Personal expenses
 • Travel Insurance
 • All expenses not mentioned above

Note:

- 1. Group Size: Minimum 2 pax, Maximum 25 pax**
- 2. Booking Deadline: 1month prior to travel**
- 3. National Tour Guide included for group more than 10 pax**

APPENDIX

Difficulty Level

- 1 – Relaxed. Some physical stamina necessary, mostly relaxed pace of activity
- 2 – Easy. Up to 3 hours of (generally easy) physical activity a day
- 3 – Moderate. 3 to 5 hours of activity a day and/or elevation gain, higher altitude, longer distance, uneven terrain.
- 4 – Challenging. 5 to 7 hours of sustained physical activity throughout trip. Good levels of fitness and technical ability required.
- 5 – Extreme. More than 7 hours of activity and/or involving high levels of technical ability and stamina. Involves long days and distances, extended camping, high altitude or ascent for extensive days.

Comfort Level

- Basic – dormitory, shared bathrooms, basic camping
- Simple – homestay, farmhouse, 1 star hotel
- Comfort – 3 star hotel, private bath/comfort camping
- Boutique – 3+ star hotel, unique property, small/luxury camping
- Luxury – 5 star

Key Code for all of these options

- b: Breakfast (full)
- l: Lunch at restaurant or similar
- sl: Small Lunch or light lunch
- pl: picnic Lunch
- d: Dinner