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16 - 25 Nov 2012 (10-days) Yunnan's Yuanyang & Dongchuan

Cost Rm3360 (per pax for group of 10pax), Rm3320 (group 12 pax) & Rm3280 (group 14 pax and above)

Update 13 Oct 12 Trip is CONFIRMED. MH is not flying daily in 2012. We now fly in a day earlier. Itinerary changed to having 2 nights in Dongchuan instead of 1.

Update 2 Oct 11 This once a year trip best done in last two week of Nov to cover Yuanyang and Dongchuan. Another good timing is in May and Sept. Otherwise will not be as beautiful. So lets get the core 10 pax in first. Go to the link above to STAR newspaper writeup on Yuanyang. Trip starts on Sat and finishes Sat. So only 5 days leave needed. Kindly register your name now.

IMPORTANT NOTICE This is meant to be a "free and easy" adventure trip. Participants should be relatively fit, with a good sense of humour, and above all, have the right attitude for close travel with others through possibly some trying times. Most definitely, this is not a trip for prudes, whiners, fuss-pots, and other similiarly assorted types! We had a couple of those before and it wasn't pleasant for us or them. Although every effort will be made to stick to the given itinerary, ground conditions may change and cause some disruption and/or deviation from the norm. Otherwise, have fun.



Photographers galore

The highlight of this trip is the famous rice terraces, reputedly the biggest in China and slated to be China's latest UNESCO World Heritage site. January is probably the best month of the year to visit because of the waters in the fields. It is currently frequented by local photographers. Apart from the rice terraces, we visit seven different minorities groups on this trip.

Note that this trip involves [travel by public buses and hired buses on some days](#). We stay in a mix of 2 star hotels with attached bathrooms in bigger towns and guesthouses with common or shared bathrooms in smaller places. As with most Yongo trips, you pay for your own meals, entrance fees, bicycle hire and other activities.



Minorities of Yuanyang

Day 1 16Nov Sat KIA to Kunming: We fly to Kunming on Malaysian Airlines departing 9AM arriving 1240PM. and have the rest of the day free. Overnight (ON) Kunming.

Day 2 Jianshui: Jianshui, SE of Kunming 220km 5hr, is a charming, friendly town on the cusp of becoming an important tourist destination. It has a history of over 1,180 years and is home to the Hani and Yi minorities. We visit the Chaoyang Gateway Arch built in 1389, also known as the "Miniature Tiananmen" and also Wen Miao - the second largest Confucian Temple in the country after Qufu Shandong. ON Jianshui.

Day 3 Swallow Cave: Located 30km east of Jianhui and covering an area of 100,000 square meters, it is home to thousands of swallows. It's also an important source of the expensive bird's nest. We move on to Yuanyang 120km 3hr south of Jianshui for our overnight stay.

Day 4 Rice Terraces: We visit the famous rice terraces built by the Hani minorities some 1000 years ago. ON Yuanyang.

Day 5 Local Villages: We trek to some local villages with more views of the spectacular rice terraces. ON Yuanyang.

Day 6 Kunming: We have a long day drive back to Kunming. ON Kunming.

Day 7 Dongchuan: The brilliant red soil, the yellow buckwheats and the dramatic skies make the region around Dongchuan a paradise for photographers. Speaking of Red Soil, the scenery is in fact centralized around Huagou (means colorful valley) of Xintian Township, which is about 50km away from Dongchuan County seat. Those locations are too small to have a name. Locals simply call it 109, 110...the number on the kilometer marker along the road. 109 is almost the highest point on the road, which branches here to another small hamlet. From all around 109 glorious vistas stretch to Guizhou and Sichuan. Dongchuan, as the crow flies not more than 20 kilometres away, is barely visible in the valley far below. ON Dongchuan.

Day 8 Dongchuan-Kunming: We visit more view point around Hua Guo village and have second night in Dongchuan. ON Dongchuan.

Day 9 Kunming: We travel back to Kunming and have the rest of the day visiting the Flower Market and shopping.

Day 10 Fly Home: We transfer to the airport for flight home at 140PM arriving 525PM Sunday Nov 25 2012.



Dongchuan "Red Earth"/ More Yuanyang Rice terraces

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Cost cover airfares, accommodation, all town to town public bus trips and bus hires only.
2. Cost excludes airport taxes & fuel surcharges, visa fees (Rm58 single entry), meals, entrance & activities fees and in-town taxis or bus on free days.
3. Cost is subject to change depending on fluctuations in exchange rates and/or airfares.
4. We do not do compulsory shopping stops common to normal China tours nor do we collect compulsory up-front tips.
5. Rm810 is payable as deposit.

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