

A&K GUIDE

HOW TO SELL CHINA

Discover your Shangri-La in the heart of China



Abercrombie & Kent

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“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step”

LAO TZU



FORBIDDEN CITY, BEIJING



PANDAS AT CHENGDU

WHY A&K:

- One of the first international travel companies to operate in China
- Our first Orient office opened in 1993 and we now have a network in Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai
- Clients enjoy privileged insider access to historic and cultural sites
- Our English-speaking guides and experts specialise in art, architecture to archaeology

TO TIP OR NOT TO TIP

Tipping is advised on a discretionary basis. If a client wishes to tip their guide or drivers below is a suggested guideline.

Guides	\$USD, per person
Half Day Tour	10
Full Day Tour	20
Driver	\$USD, per person
Half Day Tour	5
Full Day Tour	10

CITIES

Beijing

Famed for the magnificent Forbidden City. With the expertise of a private guide, your clients can get under the skin of this dynamic city with a visit to the Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square and Summer Palace. Climb the panoramic ramparts of the Great Wall of China at nearby Mutianyu.

Yangshuo

A city famed for its rugged mountains, crystalline waters and surrounding karst peaks. The mysterious caves in Guilin have been celebrated for centuries in Chinese arts. Enjoying a reputation for being one of the most beautiful places in China, it also has the added benefit of English-speaking locals.

Hong Kong

Shimmering skyscrapers jostling for position make this one of the world's most dramatic cities. Traditional junks cruise Victoria Harbour while the world's longest bridge connects this former British colony to Macao. Take the Peak Tram to Victoria Peak to view the spectacular sight of the 'fragrant harbour' across to the lights of Kowloon.

Shanghai

With its futuristic skyscrapers, Shanghai is home to one of the world's most incredible skylines. Survey the city from above the clouds by taking a trip up the 128-storey Shanghai Tower. Stroll along The Bund, the city's gleaming waterfront. Discover a treasure chest of architectural styles in this glittering city.

Xian

At Xian stand to attention with the iconic Terracotta Warriors. The 8,000-strong life-size army, complete with horses and chariots, is a historian's dream. Clients can immerse themselves in this amazing sight which was created during the Qin Dynasty. Discovered in 1974, it's now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Top five attractions

Beijing The Great Wall – one of the great man-made wonders of the world.

Shanghai Watch the Shanghai Acrobatic Troupe, or attend a traditional tea ceremony.

Xian The Terracotta Warriors Museum.

Sichuan See the pandas at the Chengdu breeding centre.

Hong Kong Enjoy a helicopter ride for a bird's eye-view.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Chengdu

A visit to the Panda Breeding and Research Centre is the perfect family experience as you can see the pandas in a bamboo forest. Whilst visiting, clients can join a campaign to save this endangered species.

Pingyao

Immerse your clients in the living museum that is the city of Pingyao. Wander the cobbled streets of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Stroll down Ming-Qing Street, which is sprinkled with calligraphy shops and see the earliest Chinese bank within one of the best walled cities in the world.

Silk Road

Follow in the footsteps of the ancient traders who journeyed along the Silk Road. Starting in Beijing, venture into the Gobi Desert on a camel safari before meeting with an Uighur family in Urumqi. Watch the skilful horsemanship of the Kazakh nomads.

Tibet Autonomous Region

Journey to the 'roof of the world'. Chart its religious roots through Jokhang Temple, Potala Palace and Sanggye Dhungum where hundreds of Buddha statues are carved into a cliff wall. Meet with Ani Tsangku nuns at a chanting ceremony or attend a Lhasa monk scripture recital.

Yunnan

Take a journey to legendary Shangri-La, as you experience the wonders of Yunnan. Explore glaciers in the shadow of mountains and descend into deep canyons. Unearth the secrets of the Songzanglin Monastery. Explore Lijiang Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, nestling at the foot of the Himalayas known as the 'Venice of the Orient'.

CRUISE THE YANGTZE

The *Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer* is one of only two five-star vessels operating on the Three Gorges region of the Yangtze River and carries 124 passengers, compared with the 300 plus found on other cruises. With spacious cabins and a crew to passenger ratio of 1:1, this is a cruise unlike any other. Onboard facilities include a la carte dining, spa and a two-floor theatre.



LESSER GORGES, CHINA

Best time to visit

When	Why
January	Northern China is dry and chilly, though the south remains relatively mild and humid. Head to Harbin in the northeast for the annual Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival. For the warmth travel south to the subtropical climes of Xishuangbanna and see the vast Yuanyang rice terraces.
February	Chinese New Year falls between 21 January and 20 February. Head to the major cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong to experience the festivities from fireworks, lanterns to street parades and sacred ceremonies.
March	Spring is one of the best times to visit the north of the Yunnan Province. See the flora and fauna among the snow-capped mountains around Lijiang, Dali and Shangri-La. The region boasts UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including Lijiang's charming Old Town.
April	The warm springtime temperature makes April a great month for a cruise on Sanctuary <i>Yangzi Explorer</i> . Head south to Hangzhou for the harvesting of the Longjing tea leaves. Wander among the beautiful blossoms of around the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hangzhou's West Lake.
May	In this comfortable May weather, journey to the ancient sites along the Silk Road, starting in Xian with the Terracotta Army. These famous battalions of intricately carved clay soldiers are more than 2,000 years old. End your journey at the foot of the Pamirs Mountains in Kashgar.
June	It's the beginning of summer in China and the temperature can rise to 30°C throughout much of the country. Enjoy a city break to Hong Kong for the famous Dragon Boat Festival in Victoria Harbour. This time of year is perfect for exploring the rice terraces in Longji and Yunhe.
July	The heat and humidity make this the best time to visit the Sea of Clouds in eastern China. This atmospheric spectacle occurs in the Huangshan mountains. Hike the trails to discover three more natural wonders - its odd pines, strange stones and hot springs.
August	This is one of the hottest and wettest months. Cool off on the Yulong River in the northeast of China. Take a traditional bamboo rafting trip, passing Yangshuo's emerald-green karsts and see the Liu San Jie Impression Light Show.
September	As autumn arrives, the north is cool while the south remains hot. In south-central China, discover Zhangjiajie National Forest Park in Hunan province where <i>Avatar</i> was filmed. This wilderness is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Wulingyuan where you can ride the Bailong Elevator, the world's tallest lift.
October	The first week of October marks Chinese National Day. It's best to avoid travelling during 'golden week' as it can be chaotic. Visit afterwards and head to UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Jiuzhaigou or Jiuzhai Valley National Park for the autumnal colours and picturesque hiking.
November	With fewer visitors, this is a wonderful month to visit if you don't mind the cooler, crisper weather. Encounter the sights and sounds of China's third city, Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province. Visit the panda projects and teahouses.
December	Cooler temperatures mean fewer crowds. Make the most of this with a trip to Beijing. Visit the famous Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and the Summer Palace. Take the time to walk the one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, the Great Wall of China.

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