

China Ethnic Minorities Tour

13-day tour to Lijiang, Kunming, Anshun, Huangguoshu Waterfalls, Kaili, Xijiang, Zhaoxing, Libo & Guiyang

This tour focuses on the southwestern region of China, a culturally rich area home to diverse ethnic groups, including the Tibetans, Yao, Zhuang, Bai, Miao, and Dong. Here, you'll have the chance to immerse yourself in their daily lives and explore their unique lifestyles, religious practices, and culinary traditions. The stunning landscapes, characterized by expansive plateaus, paired with vibrant ethnic cultures, make this destination captivating and unforgettable.

Day 1 Arrival Lijiang
Today you arrive in Lijiang; met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day will be at leisure.

Day 2 Lijiang Meal: B/L
Today you will visit the highlights in Lijiang. The old town centre of Lijiang is known as Dayan. Dayan Town was listed on UNESCO's World Heritage Sites list in 1997. You will visit the Dongba Culture Museum, which houses examples of the Naxi's writing, one of very few ancient pictographic scripts still in use in the world. You will also visit the Black Dragon Pond which is a great photo stop for the snow Mountains. In the afternoon head to Jade Dragon Snow Mountain, which has rich vegetation coverage ranging from subtropical to alpine. You take a cable car up the Spruce Meadow and back down.

Day 3 Lijiang – Tiger Leaping Gorge Meal: B/L
Today you'll visit the Yangtze River First Bend. Be amazed by the amazing view of the surroundings. After lunch, we Continue to Tiger Leaping Gorge which is one of the deepest gorges in the world. The most famous scenic spots are the Mouth of the Gorge and the Tiger Leaping Pebble, both of which are on the upper gorge. Explore and enjoy the upper Tiger Leaping Gorge. Return to hotel in late afternoon.

Day 4 Lijiang - Kunming Meal: B
This morning is at leisure. Enjoy this beautiful ancient town at your own pace. At noon, transfer to the train station and take high speed train to Kunming. Kunming is well known as the "City of Eternal Spring" due to its cool summers and mild winters. Stay 2 nights in Kunming.

Day 5 Kunming v Stone Forest Meal: B/L/D
This morning you visit Western Hill; then followed by Stone Forest Scenic Area, which is called the "No.1 Wonder under Heaven". The area is a deeply eroded limestone Karst area and is the highest karst terrain in the world. The unique natural sights and Sani folklore are characteristics of the Stone Forest Scenic Area. Dinner will be local specialty famous Guoqiao (Crossing-the-bridge) Rice Noodle.

Day 6 Kunming – Anshun Meal: B/L
This morning takes high speed train to Anshun, a short bus ride Huangguoshu area. You will drive to Balingqiao Bridge, the biggest trussed suspended bridge in China, ranked No.6 in the world. In the afternoon, you will have a tour to Tian Xing (Sky Star) Scenic Area which is known as the stone forest on the water.

Day 7 Huangguoshu Waterfalls - Kaili Meal: B/L/D
Today visit to Huangguoshu Waterfalls, which is the largest waterfall in Asia and one of the grandest waterfalls in the world. Huangguoshu Falls is 74 meters (243 ft) high and 81 meters (266 ft) wide. Then head to Dou Po Tang Waterfall, a sister waterfall of Huangguoshu Waterfall. In the afternoon, you will drive to Kaili (3.5 hours). Overnight in Kaili.





Day 8 Kaili – Xijiang - Kaili Meal: B/L/D
Morning visit to farmer's market to experience the daily life of local people. Drive to Langde Miao Village. You will see the Miao people dancing in the square. After lunch drive Xijiang Miao Village, also known as Xijiang Thousands Miao Minority Families Village. It is one of the largest Miao ethnic villages in China and is famous for its traditional Miao architecture, rich cultural heritage, and stunning natural scenery. The village is home to thousands of Miao people, and its layout reflects the unique social structure and customs of the Miao ethnic group. We can explore the cobblestone streets lined with wooden stilted houses adorned with intricate carvings and decorations. Drive about 40 minutes back to Kaili. Overnight in Kaili.

Day 9 Kaili - Zhaoxing Meal: B/L/D
Morning drive about 1.5 hours to Rongjiang. Visit to the local market. Continue driving about 1 hour to Zhaoxing Town, a town dominates by Dong minority people. On the way you will stop at Dong Village. Walking into the Dong Village, surrounded by verdant mountains with a crystal stream running through, all the buildings are wooden-stilt houses. What a beautiful and picturesque village with unique ethnic flavor including aFlower Bridge and Drum Tower. Overnight at local residence in Zhaoxing.
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Flower Bridge and Drum Tower. Overnight at local residence in Zhaoxing.

Day 10 Zhaoxing – Libo Meal: B/L
Morning visits the Tang An Terraced Fields where you can visit the Dong Village and surrounding terraced fields. Drive to Libo (approximately 3-hour journey), while enjoying the picturesque landscapes along the way, you will also visit the authentic Huanggang Dong Village. Overnight stay in Libo.



Day 11 Libo Meal: B/L
Full day visit to the Da Qi Kong and Xiao Qi Kong Scenic Park. The area is known as the "Green Gem on Earth" and boasts rich natural scenery, including mountains, water, caves, forests, lakes, and waterfalls. Within a narrow valley of less than two kilometers, there are 68 cascading waterfalls, with turbulent waters creating spectacular views.

Day 12 Libo-Guiyang Meal: B/L
Drive to Guiyang (3.5 hours), the capital city of Guizhou Province, where you can explore and experience the colourful minorities' cultures. Afternoon Guiyang city highlights tour of the Qingyan Ancient Town, where you can see the spectacular town built right on the cliffs with vast rocks and its unique heritages dates back more than 700 years ago. If time permits, then visit to Jiaxiu Pavilion the landmark of the city.

Day 13 Guiyang Departure Meal: B
This morning is at leisure; until time transfer to Guiyang airport for your flight bound for next destination.

Group Size	Price per person
5 -6 people	$3450
3 -4 people	$4580
2 people	$5480

Inclusions:
1.Twisn share hotel accommodation.
2.Fully inclusive private tour with English speaking guide, all transfers and entrance fees as per itinerary.
3. 2nd class high speed train travel Lijiang - Kunming - Anshun.

Exclusions:
International air travel, tipping for the guide and driver, personal expenses; travel insurance, items not mentioned in above itinerary, unscheduled meals etc.

4* Hotels for your references: Lijiang Doof Resort; Kunming Cachet Boutique Artime; Huangguoshu Four Points by Sheraton; Kaili Wyndham Downtown; Xijiang Insprings / Sanchunli; Zhaoxing Yimidaotian Hotel; Libo JIahe Hotel or similar.

Single room extra: $820
China Southern Airlines flies from Sydney to Lijiang / Guiyang via Guangzhou. This is a private tour with your choice of departure date all year round.