

Code: **VA-EDU-GCO**

Glimpse of the Chinese Opera

8 days study trip to Beijing, Xi'an, Shanghai and Suzhou

Chinese Opera is a popular form of drama and musical theatre in China with roots going back as far as the 3rd century CE. It is a combination of a spectacle of songs and dance together with colourful costumes, make-up, acrobats, jesters, storytellers, acting, poetry and martial arts etc. On this trip, we visit famous Chinese opera actors, learn face painting, visit the opera custom collectors to learn about the most brilliant genres of Chinese Opera, namely Peking Opera at Beijing, Qin Qiang at Xi'an, Kunqu at Shanghai and Pingtan in Suzhou.

No.	Description
Day 1	Arrive in Beijing.
Day 2	Beijing: visit Tian'anmen Square, Forbidden City and explore the Hutong neighbourhood.
Day 3	Visit The Great Wall in the morning, afternoon visit the Summer Palace including a private visit to the theatre where Cixi, the Empress Dowager enjoyed Peking Opera.
Day 4	Beijing: In the morning the Former House of Mei Lanfang, in the afternoon visit the National Peking Opera Institute and Peking Opera Art Museum. After dinner, experience the charm of Peking Opera by learning some basic moves and face-painting. Enjoy a Peking Opera Show.
Day 5	Beijing to Xi'an: Morning flight to Xi'an. Visit the Terra Cotta Warrior upon arrival, biking on the ancient City Wall, and explore the colourful night life at the Muslim Quarter. Enjoy a Qin Qiang show like a local at a tea house.
Day 6	Xi'an to Shanghai: Visit the Provincial Museum and Stone Stele Forrest, and learn about Chinese calligraphy. Fly to Shanghai, explore the Bund by night.
Day 7	Shanghai: Visit the Shanghai Museum and the Shanghai Kunqu Performance Group in the afternoon and enjoy a show tonight.
Day 8	Shanghai to Suzhou: Visit a water town en-route to Suzhou. Visit Embroidery Institute and Silk Museum, visit the famous Humble Administrator's House. In the afternoon enjoy a Ping Tan show while tasting a cup of green tea. Drive back to Shanghai. Trip ends.

Contact: Dandan at edu@myexpo2010shanghai.com

