

Code: **VA-EDU-HGC**

Travel in China's History

Along the Grand Canal— A visit to Hangzhou, Suzhou and Shanghai

The Program Area was the most flourishing and richest area of China during the medieval ages, namely the Song and Ming dynasty. Grand Canal - the world's oldest and longest canal, was constructed to link eastern China's largest, most important trading towns: Beijing in the north and Hangzhou in the south. In ancient times the Grand Canal was used to ship goods produced in Beijing to China's southern regions, which in time secured the canal's history as a vital link in the economic and cultural development of China. Our itinerary follows along the south section of the Grand Canal and the footsteps of Marco Polo, investigating in the process the art, culture, and history of medieval China.

No.	Description
Day 1	Hangzhou: Cruise on West Lake, Linyin Temple, Longjing tea plantation, Tea Museum.
Day 2	Hangzhou to Wuzhen: Walk around the West Lake, drive to Wuzhen, explore the water town.
Day 3	Wuzhen to Suzhou: Morning walk the water town, drive to Suzhou. Visit Suzhou Gardens, New Suzhou Museum, night cruise on the Grand Canal.
Day 4	Suzhou to Shanghai: Silk Museum & Embroidery Institute, drive to Shanghai, walk on the Bund.
Day 5	Shanghai: Visit Shanghai Expo pavilions.
Day 6	Shanghai: Walk French Concession, Shanghai Museum and Chenghuang Temple and taste famous "xiao long bao" dumplings.

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