An Enchanting tale awaits you @

Unseen YUNNAN in Spring

03Mar – 11Mar 2018

Here’s your chance to uncover Yunnan’s true beauty of nature with the only once in a year Canola (Rapeseed) flower blooming fields of Luoping, the “fairy tale” journey of paradise beyond the caves of Bamei, a photography paradise of the UNESCO World Heritage of Yuanyang Rice Terraces, Hani Village voted as the 2nd most beautiful village of China, charming Nine Dragons (Jiulong) Waterfall, Qing Dynasty ancient city of Jianshui and the enchanting Cherry Blossom & Crab apple trees @ the evergreen city of Kunming with the sunshine coast of Fuxian Lake.....

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**Day 1 Sat Mar 03: Kunming arrival (D)**
Arrived Kunming on AirAsia 5pm. Transfer for dinner and check in hotel. Evening, free at leisure to visit shopping area near Golden Horse Gate, a landmark in the shopping street of Kunming City.
Overnite in Kunming

**Day 2 Sun Mar 04: Yuantong Mt Park (Kunming) - Luoping (B/L/D)**
Early morning, visit Yuantong Mt Park in Kunming City for its’ spring flowers and if the timing is right, an opportunity to enjoy the full bloom stage of cherry blossom and crab apple trees. In this park, there are hundreds of oriental cherry trees that were introduced in from Japan in the 1950s. Yuantong Park is also the venue for the annual Oriental Cherry Flowers Festival of Kunming.

Transfer to Luoping (215km – 4 hours).
Located in the eastern part of Yunnan, Luoping is one of the largest plantations of rapeseed flowers in Southwest China. Fields covered with golden rape forms seas of yellow buds. Combined with a unique terrain dominated by karst features made this unique landscape features for photography and a place to unwind yourself.
On arrival, visit Luositian (Small Farms) in Niujie area for viewing of Canola (Rapeseed) flower fields. Then to Jinjifeng (Golden Rooster Hill) view the Canola (Rapeseed) flower fields from a high ground.- a platform for photographing the fields and sunset where weather permits.

Overnight in Luoping.
**Day 3 Mon Mar 05: Luoping – Jiulong Waterfall - Luoping (B/L/D)**

Early morning on your own, walk around to enjoy the sunrise and if the weather is good a chance for some amazing sunrise photographing. Then, back to hotel for breakfast. Transfer to Jiulong Pubu (Nine Dragons Waterfalls) to photograph the waterfalls. Option to take a cable car up the hill to the platform overlooking the valley and the waterfalls. Then, walk further down the hill to the biggest waterfall to photograph close-up.

After lunch, we will go to Duoyi River natural bio-scenic area where you can experience the beautiful view of the river with some local Buyi minority ancient houses. There are some huge water wheel along the river, just like a water wheel museum to explore.

We shall return to Luoping for dinner and hopefully on the way be lucky enough to catch the setting sun over the karst and yellow rapeseed field.

Overnight in Luoping.

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**Day 5 Tuesday Mar 06: Luoping – Bamei (Guangnan) (B/L/D)**

Early departure, drive to Guangnan County to explore the Xanadu village of Bamei, so well hidden in the mountains that you have to take a boat trip through a river tunnel to reach the village. On the way to this paradise, we will pass by some Yi minority villages.

Bamei Village – Paradise beyond the Cave .........................
If you are looking for something not just off the beaten path but almost off the map altogether, there is Bamei Xanadu Village also referred to as the Peach Blossom Valley …..

Chinese writer Tao Yuanming of the Eastern Jin Dynasty (AD 317-420) once described in his work a legendary fairyland "Peach Blossom Valley" - a place completely isolated from the rest of the world. People there lived a simple, pastoral life. For centuries, Chinese people merely regarded this valley as an imaginary place. But does such a fairyland really exist in the real world? Our trip to Bamei Village in Guangnan County of Southwest China’s Yunnan Province will lead us to an unexpected answer.

Bamei Xanadu Village – Paradise beyond the Cave

The fairyland journey to this hidden village is one of the highlights of trip. You have to experience yourself as no words can describe this travelling experience. Enjoy the scenery of the village and rice fields surrounded by a ring of mountains. The local Zhuang minority people stay here for hundreds of years, some of old people here have never go out of this hidden village. They spend their whole life to create a wonderful holyland, stay out of the modern world. We shall over night in a simple guesthouse (with attached western bathroom & hot shower) in this Xanadu Village of Bamei.

Day 06 Wednesday Mar 07 : Bamei – Yanshan (B/L/D)

In the morning, we will have time to fully explore this “cute” Bamei village, we can do some walking in the beautiful fields, or chatting with the local people. Thereafter, we shall take the boat ride and horse carriage ride to go out of the cave …. This is yet another amazing journey to go through. Our coach driver will be at the pier to welcome us back and drive us to Yanshan County, a small town close to China & Vietnam border. A relax time in the evening where we can do some shopping in the local market or try some local BBQ which is very special, enjoy these local scenic of Yanshan. Overnight in Yanshan hotel.
DAY 07 Thursday Mar 08 : Yanshan – Yuanyang (B/L/D)

After breakfast, we shall drive to the misty mountain town Yuanyang. This scenic journey will take 5 hours.
Yuanyang Rice Terraces is now UNESCO World Heritage listed.

Yuanyang Rice Terraces, located on the southern slopes of Ailao Mountain in Yuanyang County (part of Honghe Hani Autonomous Prefecture) and located in the south of Yunnan Province has been a masterpiece of the ingenuity of the Hani people for generations. Southern Ailao Mountain, with this typical tiered landscape, is famed for its unique frontier scenery, making a heaven for most photographers and nature lovers.

Upon arriving this UNESCO World Heritage site of the Hani people, we shall spend some time in this quiet and small village with an unusual great scenery, clear spring, the antique wooden bridge, the old watermill babbling creaked as if recounting the story of the millennium, rough Hani houses like mushroom scattered among the land.

After appreciating the setting sun over the terraces, we drive to our hotel to check in and enjoy a local dinner.

Overnight in Yuanyang
DAY 07 Friday Mar 09 : YUANYANG ( B/L/D)

Early morning with our packed breakfast transfer to Duoyishu Terraced Fields for sunrise viewing.

This is the most beautiful natural and cultural landscape of Yuanyang Terraces, and it is the best place to go if you wish to photograph the sunrise. The terraces in this scenic area, including Duoyishu, Aichun, and Dawazhe, are more than 1647.4 acres in total. Sunrise provides the most beautiful sight in Duoyishu as the morning there highlights the superlative dynamic landscape. As a kind suggestion, we recommend that you can pay special attention to the changing color of the water during the early morning sunrise. As the reflections and shadows are constantly changing, the visual impact can be overwhelming, making the Yuanyang Terraces, a photography heaven for all nature lovers.

Then visit Shengchun village’s morning market, follow by Bada and Malizhai Terraces viewpoints. In the afternoon, we will visit the highest viewpoint – Tiger Mouth. From this point, we can see endless terrace as if they are connecting to the sky. This is also the best place to see the sunset. After appreciating the setting sun, we shall return to our hotel and enjoy our dinner.

Overnight in Yuanyang.
DAY 08  Saturday Mar 10 : Yuanyang – Jianshui  (B/L/D)

After breakfast, we will take a 3 hours drive to Jianshui. Jianshui is a place with great location, having a history of over 1200 years, is one of the most famous cultural cities in China. In Jianshui old town, there is a good preserved Chinese ancient master piece of architectural from Song, Yuan, Ming & Qing Dynasties, with more than 50 ancient stone bridges, also known as the "China ancient residential architecture museum". Jianshui food is also well-known throughout China, after lunch we will drive to visit the Tuan Shan Village – an ancient residence of the Zhang’s family garden. We shall spend some time exploring the streets of the old town of Jianshui and enjoy the local snacks during our evening walk on our own. En-route visit the Double Dragon bridge, one of Chinese architectural treasures.

Overnite in a boutique hotel in the old town of Jianshui.

DAY 09 Sunday Mar 11 : Jianshui – Fuxian Lake – Kunming airport  (B/L)

This morning, we shall drive back to Kunming City. En-route visit the Fuxian Lake – take note of the water quality of this lake, it is one of best in all lakes in China. Fuxian Lake, 60 kilometers southeast of Kunming, sits at the headwaters of the Pearl River, China’s third longest river. It is the largest alpine freshwater lake in China, and its water storage capacity accounts for nearly 10% of all freshwater lakes in China. Fuxian is twelve times larger than the water volume of its western neighbor, Kunming’s Dianchi Lake. The average depth of the lake is 87 meters. Enjoy our lunch at a local restaurant before driving to Kunming airport for our departure flight @ 1740.
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Flight Details: AIR ASIA direct flight to Kunming
03 MAR AK101 KULKMG 1305 1655
11 MAR AK102 KMGKUL 1740 2145

Costing 9Days / 8Nights Full Board Package

a) **Ground Arrangement (Group departure min. 16 pax)**
   Twin sharing per person = MYR 4,290.00 **
   Single Supplement @MYR1200.00

b) **Air Ticket** on Air Asia as per airasia.com
   Estimated with 20kg check in bag = MYR 1,200.00 **
   (ticketing fee @ MYR 30/person)

c) Travel Insurance 9days coverage = MYR 59.00***
d) China Visa Single entry = MYR 130.00***

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Estimated per person MYR 5,679.00

*subject to exchange rate changes, based on 1CNY=0.64
**airfare on Air Asia is an estimation only, may subjected to change at the time of booking.
***you may omit them if you already have a valid travel insurance coverage and valid China Visa.
The flow of itinerary may be subjected to change according to local conditions and flight schedules.
Pictures shown are from file library and may be different from the actual sites due to weather condition.
Weather expected to be around 13C – 18C (subject to change)

Tour Fare including

a) 8 nights (3*-4*/1 night local guesthouse) hotel accommodation with daily breakfast with one day packed breakfast.
b) Private transportation 18-39 seater good conditioned coach all the way.
c) All entrance fee as itinerary
d) English speaking local guide
e) Full board with bottled drinking water during the tour
f) Tipping to Guide & Driver
g) This is a non-shopping tour

Excluding

a) Any other items mentioned in our itinerary
b) Tipping to porter at the hotel
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9 Days / 8 nights FULL Board : 03Mar – 11Mar 2018

Booking
a) Deposit payment
   (i) MYR 800.00 per person if booking of air ticket is on your own
   (ii) MYR2000.00 per person if booking of air ticket is done by EL SOL Travel

b) Balance of Payment
   By mid of January 2018

Enquiry:
laura@elsoltravel.com