

If you are fascinated with nature and folk photography, being committed to capturing the perfect balance of light and shade, **Xiapu** fishing villages ought to be your next destination, which is simple, bumble but a real paradise for photographers, and is bound to bring you a completely new visual impression. Even for a normal traveler, Xiapu offers a different kind travelling – out of the world.

Located in the northeastern Fujian Province and approximately 400 km from <u>Xiamen</u>, with the coast line (of East China Sea) stretching for 404 km, Xiapu boasts China's most beautiful mudflats, with its people earning a living on fishing for thousands of years. The marine life, bamboo poles, seaweed harvest, fishing nets, fishing boats and dotting fishermen blend into the mudflats as the sun rises and sets, creating bright-colored graphic pictures and a dreamlike world of light and shadow. Xiapu ranks the first place on the list of "Top 10 Paradise for Photographer".

With a bike of Hakka Culture in Taxia Village & World UNESCO Heritage site of Tulou of Fujian & Zhangjiao village & Xiamen, making this picturesque discovery tour a complete one for both keen photographers and travellers.

<u>Day 1: Arrive at Xiamen (厦门)</u> (MOB/D) MH 390 / MF848 KULXMN 0940 1350

Upon arriving Xiamen Gaoqi International Airport, meet and greet by our English speaking local guide.

Drive to Nanjing (approx.. 3 hrs). Contiune the drive to the water town of Taxia village (塔下村). Built in 1426 in Ming Dynasty by Zhang Family, Taxia is an exquisite Hakka village located in a tranquil valley in Shuyang Town, enjoy a walking tour along the river bank of this water town of Taxia. Along the bank of a clear brook that flows through the entire village, there are more than 20 earth buildings, each of different shapes.

Check into our hotel in Taxia and dinner at our hotel family dining hall.

Overnight at Taxia – Qingdelou Inn (a simple accommodation inside Taxia Village. If this accommodation not available, then we will overnight in Nanjing town and only go to Taxia Village the next morning)

7 Days Fujian

picturesque
discovery of
Tulou /
Xiapu /
Zhangjiao
Village
(Quanzhou) /
Xiamen



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Day 2: - TAXIA- Tulou Visiting - Zhangzhou (B/L/D)

After breakfast, enjoy a walking tour along the river bank of this water town of Taxia.

Take a 30min scenic drive to Tianluokeng Hakka Cluster (田螺坑土楼群), located in Shangban Village, Shuyang Town, take an overview at the top of the mountain (view platform) with a great vantage point looking down at this Tianluokeng. The castle, composed primarily of four round houses plus one rectangular earthen house, which is named 4 dishes and 1 soup. It is one of the most magnificent and well- preserved Hakka houses in the area. Roaming in Tianluokeng Hakka Cluster to see their daily lives.

Next, we will visit Yuchanglou (裕昌楼), a five-storey tulou built in 1308 Yuan dynasty by the Liu family clan and is one of the oldest existing tulou. Yuchanglou has been nicknamed the "zigzag building" ("东倒西歪楼") for its tilted pillars that zigzags left and right. It was built that way due to an error measuring the building materials. In spite of this apparent infirmity, this tall tulou withstood 700 years of natural elements and social turmoil. Have a traditional Hakka lunch.

We will also visit <u>Gaotou village(高头村)</u>,and <u>Chengqilou(承启楼)</u>,the largest grandess circular building composed by 4 cicular buildings of Wuyunlou, Shizelou & Qiaofulou.

Drive to Zhangzhou to overnight. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Zhangzhou 4* hotel or similar.

Day 3: Zhangzhou (漳州) - Xiapu (霞浦) (B/L/D)

After breakfast at hotel and check out, transfer to Zhangzhou train station for our high- speed train to Xiapu (霞浦), **Reference train: D3166 0827/1126** (train schedule subject to change). The train journey will take around 3hrs.

Upon arrival at Xiapu, check into hotel. After lunch, we will proceed with our first photo shoot of the day. Transfer to Yangjiaxi (杨家溪) for some ancient banyan tree photo-taking in the picturesque old banyan tree forest. Some of the banyan tree has more than 800 years of history. Under the shine of sunrays penetrating through the forest, the whole scenery seems to be like an oil painting.

This late afternoon, we will be taking pictures of sunset at Xiaohao (小皓) beach, one of the most beautiful around this area. During sunset, you can see a lot of fisherman boats scattered around the water with good lighting. Proceed to Xishan (西山) as we await the fishermen returning from their fishing trip. This is also a very good place for sunset.

Overnite in Xiapu – Huandao Hotel or similar



Day 4: Xiapu (B/L/D)

Rise early today for an exciting day of photoshooting sessions at various locations.

Very early morning, travel to Bailu (白鹭) where we get to witness the beauty of sunrise rising from Mantoushan (馒头山). Thousand rows of fishing bamboo are planted on the low lying beach as well. The perfect sight for beautiful photo-takings.

After sunrise, venture out on a boat to Dongandao (东安岛) to capture the floating fishing village. This fishing village has a name "海上威尼斯", literally meaning "Venice on the Sea" – there are hundreds of houses built on the sea, a very impressive sight which will take your breath away and make sure you will snap non-stop.

Go to Shajiang (\slash), the infamous site where we can see hundreds and thousands of bamboo sticking out from the mudflat and also the S-shaped bay as well as fishing boats coming in and out of the bay. The water here is isolated and calm and simply has too many subjects for photography.

Overnite in Xiapu – Huandao Hotel or similar





<u>Day 5 : Xiapu -Beiqi (北岐) – Quanzhou (B/-/D)</u>

Another day of rising early for the sake of taking nice sunrise photos.

Early morning around 5.30am, reach Beiqi (北岐) shoal for sunrise photo-taking. Beiqi is a small fishing village by the sea and is the ground for seaweed harvesting. This is considered the number one shooting point and a must-visit for all shutter bugs. In Beiqi we can see large crowd of fisherman working. As the sun slowly make its way up from the sea, the sea seems to be covered with a layer of gold. Against the backdrop of seaweed hanging at bamboo pole, it is a scene not to be missed.

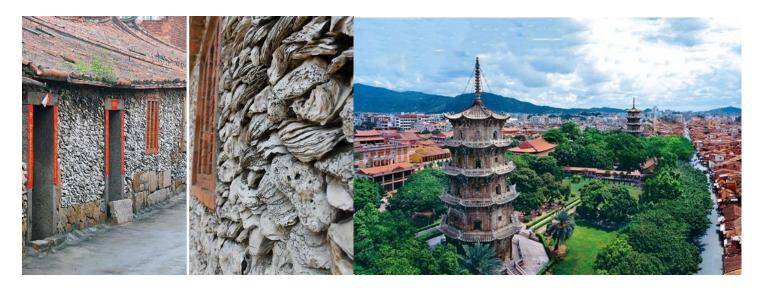
After our last shot of impression of Xiapu, we shall drive back to our Hotel to clean up, have our breakfast and rest for a while. Check out by 10.00 am. Drive to Xiapu Train station to catch our Fast Train to Quanzhou, **Reference train:** D3231 1131/1336. (we shall have our lunch on the train on our own expenses.)

On arrival at Quanzhou train station, continue a short trip to Zhangjiao Village. Explore this stone-built village. Return to Quanzhou (1 hr drive) for dinner and take a walking tour along Tumen street & Chaotianmen Square before checking into our hotel.

Overnight in Quanzhou – Hotel Huijin Holiday Inn 4* or similar



Zhangjiao village is a stone-built paradise. While walking in the peaceful and quiet village, beautiful scenery will appear in your field of view, just like exquisite oil paintings unfolding in front of you and exemplified by a cloud of end-to-end colorful stone-houses in an overlapping array. These houses are called "Shi Cuo" by local people ("Shi" means stone, "Cuo" means laying). They began to be constructed in the transitional period from the late Ming dynasty to the early Qing dynasty (the Qing dynasty started in 1636A.D.). In their 300-year history, the houses have experienced a lot of vicissitudes in the world.



DAY 6 QUANZHOU -Xiamen (B/L/D)

After breakfast, check out and depart for Xiamen City. En-route to visit Xunpu Oyster Village. Spend some time there to enjoy the oyster village, some walls of houses are decorated with big oyster shells.

Have an early lunch there to enjoy their seafood meal especially oyster.

Thereafter, continue our road journey to Xiamen. Arrive Xiamen in the afternoon. Spend the whole afternoon visiting Gulangyu Island. Take the evening ferry back to Xiamen City, during the ferry ride, enjoy the setting sun. Dinner at a local restaurant to enjoy the famous Fujian cuisine before checking into the hotel.

Overnight at: REST Hotel, Xiamen or similar



The World Heritage Committee inscribed Gulangyu (鼓浪嶼) in China on the UNESCO's World Heritage List on July 8, 2017 making China the country with the most World Heritage Sites in the world with 52.

"Kulangsu / Gulangyu is a tiny island located on the estuary of the Chiu-lung River, facing the city of Xiamen. With the opening of a commercial port at Xiamen in 1843, and the establishment of the island as an international settlement in 1903, this island off the southern coast of the Chinese empire suddenly became an important window for Sino-foreign exchanges," the UNESCO said on its website.







DAY 7 XIAMEN - KUALA LUMPUR (B/L)

After breakfast, check out. Today, we shall enjoy half a day of Xiamen City tour which include the Xiamen University (permission to enter into the University is subjected to University's approval, otherwise we shall view from outside only), Zhongshan Road (for some last minute shopping of their local products) before a farewell lunch. Transfer to Xiamen Airport for our departure flight etd 1500 (MAS)/1700(Xiamen airlines)

The flow of itinerary may be subjected to change according to local conditions at the time of visit, re-schedule of train / flight time table etc.

7 days Fujian: a picturesque discovery of Tulou/Xiapu/Zhangjiao Village (Quanzhou)/ Xiamen

For Private tour, you may form your own group & choose your own dates as long as there are flights to Xiamen (without Tour Leader)

For Group Departure (16 pax): 29Dec 2019 – 04Jan 2020* (with Tour Leader)

Costing

	Private Group	Private Group	Above 16 pax*
	<u>06-10 paxs</u>	11-14 pax	Per person rate
	Per person rate	Per person rate	
a) Ground	MYR 3,990.00	MYR 3,690.00	MYR 3,690.00
Arrangement			
Twin sharing			
b) Single Supplement	MYR 900.00	MYR 800.00	MYR 800.00

- c) Econ class Air ticket on MAS/Xiamen Air estimated @MYR 1,590.00 (subject to change)
- d) China Visa Single Entry Normal Application fee @ MYR 130.00
- e) Travel Insurance @ MYR 59.00
- *based on USD exchange rate at 1USD=MYR4.15. Fare is subjected to change due to changes in Forex rates, unforeseen surcharges etc.
- **air ticket rate subjected to change at any time. You will be advised upon booking on the actual amount payable.

7 days Fujian: a picturesque discovery of Tulou/Xiapu/Zhangjiao Village (Quanzhou)/ Xiamen

The Ground Arrangement costing included

- a) Private arrangement use of coach transportation
- b) 6 nights hotel accommodation with breakfast
- c) 11 meals as specified in the itinerary
- d) Two –ways Bullet Train Ticket (second class) Zhangzhou Xiapu / Xiapu Quanzhou
- e) Ferry ride to Gulangyu Island
- f) Entrance fees / boat ride in Xiapu as per itinerary
- g) The service of an English Speaking Guide
- h) Non-shopping stops tour
- i) One bottle of Drinking water per pax per day

Excluded

- a) Tipping to Local Guide(s) & Driver(s)
- b) Camera/Video Fee if any
- c) Any items not mentioned in the itinerary

Booking

Payment

- a) 1st Payment of MYR 2000.00 per person upon booking
- b) Balance Payable by mid of Oct 2019

Email

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