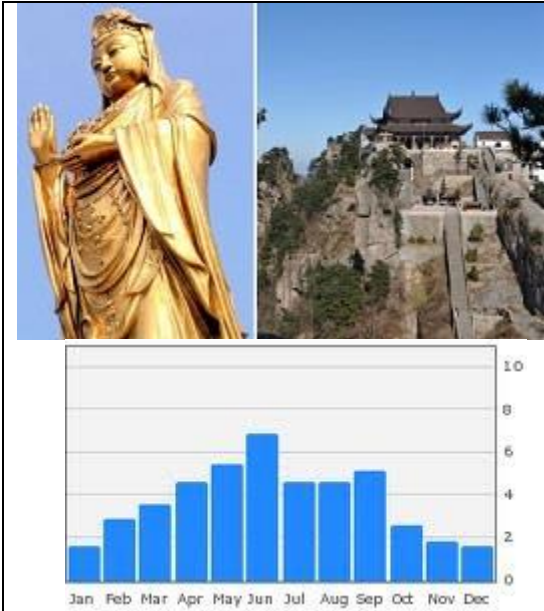


9D7N CHINA: Mt. Putuo & Mt. Jiuhua

IN & OUT Hangzhou: Extensions for Hangzhou & to Huangshan possible.



A special tour to **2 of China's 4 Buddhist Holy mountains, Mt. Putuo** (dedicated to Goddess of Mercy Bodhisattva "Guanyin") and **Mt. Jiuhua** (dedicated to Earth Store Bodhisattva "Dizang"). Includes visit to **Ningbo, Tunxi and Hangzhou cities.**

BEST TIME TO VISIT: Early Spring and throughout Autumn with more dry days and pleasant temperatures. Avoid 1st weeks of May (Labour Day week) and October (China National Day week). Advise Saturday departure to avoid extreme weekend crowds at Putuoshan and Jiuhuashan. For general rainfall info, refer to Hangzhou's rainfall chart on the left.

DAY 1 SAT: Hangzhou arrival

5.20pm Air Asia flight departure from KLIA2. 10.20pm **Hangzhou** airport arrival. Transfer to hotel in Hangzhou to overnight.

DAY 2 SUN: Hangzhou – Putuoshan island

(B/L/D)

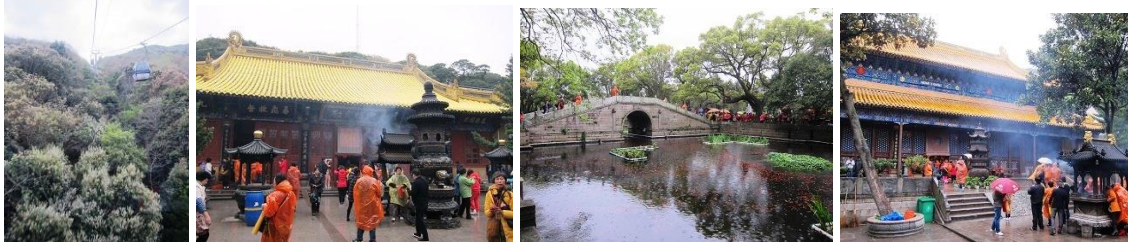


Transfer from Hangzhou to **Zhujiayuan island**. Then take ferry to **Putuoshan island** (15min ride), where **Mount Putuo** is located. The mountain is named after "Potala" (Sanskrit language), the mythical mountain abode of **Guanyin Boddhisattva (Goddess of Mercy)**. At only 297m above sea level, it is the lowest of China's 4 Buddhist Holy Mountains. Every year on February 19, June 19, and September 19 of the lunar calendar, it welcomes millions of people for the celebration of the birth of Guanyin and attainment as bodhisattva. On arrival, transfer to hotel to check-in. Then visit **South Seas Guanyin Statue** and **Violet Bamboo Grove Temple**. Then visit **Puji Temple** and **Hundred Steps Beach**. Overnight on Putuoshan island.



DAY 3 MON: Putuoshan island & Luojia Shan island visit (B/L/D)

Morning, boat ride to **Luojia Shan island** for visit. Luojia Shan island is where Guanyin is believed to have left a footprint after leaping off the island. Scenic spots are **Miaozhan Pagoda, Yuantong Shrine, Dajue Shrine, Yuanyue Pagoda, Wensi Pavilion, Stone Archway** and **Beacon on Luojia Mountain**. Then return to **Putuoshan island**. Visit **Bukenqu Guanyin Monastery** and **Xitian Scenic Spot**.



Transfer to Cable Car station for **cable car ride up Mount Putuo** to visit **Huiji Temple**. Take cable car down to station and transfer to visit **Fayu Temple**.

(**OPTION**: you can walk down from Huiji Temple to Fayu Temple, approx. 40 to 50 min.) Visit **Cave of Chaoying** (according to legend, Guanyin appeared before worshippers here) and **Thousand Step Beach**. Overnight on Putuoshan island.

DAY 4 TUE: Putuoshan island – Ningbo (B/L/D)



Check-out and take ferry to Zhujiayuan island and transfer to **Ningbo** city. Ningbo is one of China's oldest cities, with a history dating to the Hemudu culture in 4800 BC. Ningbo was known as a trade city on the silk road at least two thousand years ago, and then as a major port of the Tang and Song Dynasties. Visit **Tian Tong Temple**, the No. 2 mountain among the five Chinese Zen Buddhist School Mountains. It is often referred to as the "Dongnan Foguo" (Buddhist Country in Southeast China) and

originally built in 300 AD. Then visit **Princess Ah Yu's Temple**. Overnight in Ningbo.

DAY 5 WED: Ningbo – Tunxi

(B/L/D)



Visit Ningbo **Tianyige Library & Garden**, the oldest existing library in China. Founded in 1561 by Fan Qin during the Ming Dynasty, in its heyday, it boasted a collection of 70,000 volume of antique books. Within it are several gardens of beautiful landscaping.



Then transfer to Anhui province's **Tunxi**, now known as Huangshan City due to its proximity to Huangshan mountain. Tunxi is an important trading town for Anhui province since the Song dynasty period. Visit **Tunxi Old Street**, where you can shop among the old traditional style shop houses that line the paved walking street. Overnight in Tunxi.

DAY 6 THU: Tunxi – Jiuhuashan (B/L/D)

Transfer from Tunxi to **Mount Jiuhoa** area, which are packed with many temples, majority to worship **Earth Store Boddhisattva (“Dizang”)** or in Sanskrit, **“Ksitigarbha”**. He is known for his vow to take responsibility for the instruction of all beings in the six worlds between the passing of Gautama Buddha and the rise of Maitreya (the next Buddha), as well as his vow not to achieve Buddhahood until all hells are emptied. According to worshippers, Earth Store Boddhisattva manifested himself in China and chose **Mount Jiuhoa** as his Bodhimanda, “position of awakening”.



Visit **Ganlu Monastery** where Jiuhuashan Buddhism Academy (monastery for training monks) is located. On arrival at Jiuhua village, check-in hotel. Visit **Hua Cheng Temple**, which is the oldest and holiest temple in Mount Jiuhoa. In front of the temple, is a very old crescent moon-shaped pond. After dinner, visit **Qi Yuan temple** to observe evening prayers. Overnight in Jiuhuashan.

DAY 7 FRI: Jiuhuashan (B/L/D)



Morning, take funicular car up mountain to visit **Longevity Palace** (Baisui Palace), which preserves the **mummified body of a Buddhist monk, Monk Wu Xia** of the Ming Dynasty. Then visit **1,000 Arhat Hall** and **Dongya temple**.



After lunch, transfer to visit **Terrace of Worshipping Sutra (including cable car ride)**, to see the **Earth Store Bodhisattva's footprints**. Then, climb up to the **Celestial Terrace (Tientai)**, right at the top of the mountain ridge, to visit the **Tian Tai Zen Monastery**, namely **Palace of Ten Thousand Buddha** and **Thread of Sky** (to rocks leaning on each other leaving a small slit in between). Enjoy the bird's-eye **view of Jiuhua village** from here.



Then return to Jiuhua village and visit **Corporeal Body and Treasure Hall Temple**, which houses the body of eminent monk Kim Qiao Que. He was a Korean monk who came to stay in Mount Jiuhua in 719 AD until his death at the age of 99 years. Locals believe he was the reincarnation of Earth Store Bodhisattva. Overnight in Jiuhuashan.



DAY 8 SAT: Jiuhuashan - Hangzhou – departure

(B/L/D)



Transfer to Hangzhou with lunch en-route. Arrival in Hangzhou and visit **Hefangjie Old Street** including the heritage traditional medicine pharmacy, Hu Qing Yu Tang, established in the Qing Dynasty (a still functioning pharmacy). **OPTIONAL:** visit attached

Chinese medicine museum; ticket not included, purchase direct at counter).

Dinner in Hangzhou and transfer to airport for 11.20pm flight home.

DAY 9 SUN: KL arrival

4.20am arrival at KLIA2.

RATES: per pax, twin sharing, for group sizes below, for travel period SEP 2015 to APR 2016. Rates not valid for peak season periods such as X'Mas-New Year, Chinese New Year an, religious festival days; surcharges to be advised.

2 paxs: RM 7930

4 paxs: RM 6780

6 paxs: RM 5750

7-9 paxs: RM 5315

10 paxs: RM 5225

11 paxs: RM 4435

15 +1 FOC: RM 3695

20 +1 FOC: RM 3280

Single supplement: RM 690

Child Without Bed: RM 1520

Child With Extra Bed: RM 2210

NOTE: FOC in 15 +1 FOC & 20 +1 FOC is for accommodation and meals only, subject to they are each on twin sharing basis. The person still needs to pay for entrance fees and guide & driver tipping; amount to be advised on booking.

Rates & itinerary subject to changes in Forex rates, unforeseen surcharges, weather, local conditions, etc.

INCLUSIVE:

- a) Return airport-hotel transfers and private car/coach for tour excursion.
- b) 4 star hotel accommodation
- c) Meals as indicated in itinerary above.
- d) Entrance fees for attractions as per itinerary
- e) All return tickets for cable car/funicular rides and for ferry transfers for visits as per itinerary.
- f) Tickets for public shuttle buses as required for sight-seeing at Putuoshan and Jiuhuashan.
- g) Mandarin or English speaking tour guide accompanying throughout tour. In addition, separate local guide (with local knowledge) will be provided at Putuoshan and at Jiuhuashan.
- h) Tour guide & driver tipping
- i) 2 x 500ml bottles of drinking water per pax per day (except on Day 1)

EXCLUDING:

- a) Return KL-Hangzhou airticket, airport taxes and fuel surcharges. Itinerary is timed for Air Asia flight schedule and subject to changes in flight timings. Air tickets can be booked at www.airasia.com .
- b) China visa – if El Sol arrange: sgl entry RM85 + El Sol service charge RM 20
- c) Travel insurance: can be arranged separately – RM 52 /pax (6 to 10 days coverage)
- d) Expenses of personal nature like additional activities not in itinerary, hotel bellboy/porter tipplings, laundry charges, mini bar charges, etc.