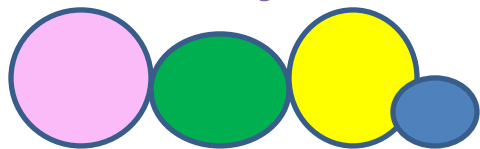


# A Tale of 3 Provinces | Sichuan, Qinghai & Gansu *plus a taste of Xian*



25 June – 06 July 2017



In this natural wonder getaway, where you can witness condors gliding across blue skies, explore nomad lifestyle, relax with a sip of milk tea and enjoy the stunning prairie sunset or sunrise. This is a place of magic, the home of yak, the world of wild flowers and the ocean of green grass. Here, the land is flat and the views are extensive; the pasture is lush and the cattle and sheep flocks ..... join us to this off the beaten track enchanting journey to capture these Tale of 3 Provinces , where the boundary beauties are endless .

## **DAY 01 , 25 JUNE Sunday : KUALA LUMPUR – CHENGDU ( MOB )**

Depart Kuala Lumpur for Chengdu on Air Asia flight D7 KUL CTU 1340

Upon Arrival **Chengdu** Airport, meet and greet by our local English Guide and drive to Dujiangyan to overnite.. Free and easy for paxs to walk along the old street of Dujiangyan

Overnite in Dujiangyan

## **Day 02, 26 JUNE Monday : Dujiangyan – EMUTANG PASTURE – HONGYUAN ( B/L/D)**

Wake up early to start our journey to **Hongyuan**.

The spectacular Hongyuan (red plain) Grasslands was so named because the Red Army, over the course of a year, passed through here during the famous **Long March in 1936**. A plateau at over 3,000m (9843 feet) above sea level , stretching for over 8,400 sq.km., the Hongyuan Grasslands is said to be home to over 300,000 herded yak, 20m herded sheep and over 20,000 horses and many wild flowers in early summer.



We will drive pass Wenchuan, the town which was completely destroyed during the equake in 2008. You will be surprise to learn how fast the China Government assisted to rebuild Wenchuan , just in 18 months.

Lunch will be a local restaurant in Guergou, a small charming town off the Miyaluo area.

Continue our journey to Hongyuan, enrout to visit **Emutang Praire** . Every year towards to the 3<sup>rd</sup> week & end of June ( subject to weather condition) , Emutang Praire will be covered with wild blooming flowers. Spend some time wondering this enchanting praire of flowers and watch the sunset over the praire ( subject to weather condition.)

Sunset @ Moon Bay

Overnite in Hongyuan .

### **DAY 03 27JUNE, Tuesday : HONGYUAN – WAQIE – THE 1<sup>ST</sup> BEND OF YELLOW RIVER – RUOERGAI – LANGMUSI ( B/L/D)**

Drive to Tangke Town for the 1<sup>st</sup> Bend of Yellow River , on the way, visit **Waqie** which is famous for the Talin “**pagoda forest**”. Buddhist pagodas gather around a monastery like a forest. Thousands of prayer flags hang in the air here.

Climb to the View Point of the **1<sup>st</sup> Bend of Yellow River** which is the most beautiful bend of the 99 bends of the Yellow River. Here you will see a “S” shape of the Yellow River.

Continue our off the beaten track journey to **Ruoergai** with a few photo-stops of this 4<sup>th</sup> largest grassland of China.

Ruoergai also known as Zoige Grassland, is the largest high-altitude marsh area in the world. It is one of the three famous marshes in China at sea level of 3,300 m. (10,826.8 ft.) to 3,600 m. (11,811 ft.)

Visit the Huahu Lake of Ruoergai.

We shall arrive Langmusi in the late afternoon.

**Langmusi** is a village on the border of Sichuan and Gansu provinces and itself is infused with Tibetan culture and natural beauty, yet the real draw to the area is the traditional nomadic grasslands outside of town.



### **Day 04 28JUNE Wednesday : LANGMUSI – XIAHE ( B/L/D)**

This morning, we will have leisure time wondering this **mystical Langmusi**.

Option to visit the Langmusi Temple ( a small entrance fee is payable on your own for those who would like to enter inside).

The landscape around the Langmusi Town is famed as China's" little Switzerland".

It is unknown to the world, but another should-not-missed destination for Tibet culture chasers - here, Amto Tibetans and Muslims live together peacefully, great stretches of mountains, meadows, rivers and gorges remain to be discovered...

People will feast their eyes on the charming scenery: bright mountain flowers in full bloom in spring, rich pastures and thriving herds in summer, frost falling on the field in autumn, the white apparel of winter.

Hopefully, we will be able to capture the famous Gesang Flower which only blooms in June in these area.

Our lunch will be at a simple local restaurant along the way to **Xiahe**. Visit the **Labrang Monastery**, one of the 6 most famous Tibetan Monastery in China, and is also known as the “ biggest Tibetan Culture University of the World”. A propitious place in the hearts of the Tibetan, it stands by the Daxia River and faces the Dragon Mountain. Overnite in Xiahe.





### **DAY 05 29 June Thursday : XIAHE - BINGLINGSI GROTTOES – Xining ( B/L/D)**

After breakfast, we will drive about 160km to Liujiaxia Water Dam, take a fast boat to visit the Bingling Grottoes.

The Bingling “ Ten Thousand Buddha “ Grottoes is one of the five Grottoes in China. The heritage site boasts a history of 1,600 years , and is filled with Buddhist sculptures carved into natural caves and caverns along the Yellow River. It lies about 35 km north where the Yellow River empties into a reservoir, located in Jishi Mountain which has a magical appear.

Drive to Xining City, expected arrival will be after sunset.

Overnite in Xining City.

### **DAY 06 30 June Friday : XINING - MENYUAN - ZHANGYE ( B/L/D)**

After an early breakfast, we shall depart for Menyuan county via Xining. We will drive northwards crossing Daban Mountain into Menyuan Basin, overlooking Gangshenka Snow Peak ( which is one peak of the Qilian Snow Mountain & Qilian Grassland)

Capture the sea of yellow rape seed flower in Yuanshan, Qingshizui as we approach Menyuan county.

Menyuan has the largest growing areas of highland Brassica Rape in China. In early July, golden rape flowers are in bloom from Qingshizui to the Xianmi gorges. The rape land here is flat and open, running southward directly to the foot of Qilian Mountain. Except for a few houses and the snow-capped Qilian Mountain, thousand of hectares of rape land reveal the same colour, just like a great piece of yellow carpet. Early of July may not be the most prosperous season for Menyuan rape flower, but the colour at that time is very colorful. There are it...which is a kind of energetic and romantic expression

We shall continue the journey to Zhangye .

Overnite in Zhangye







**DAY 07 01JULY Saturday : ZHANGYE-BINGGOU -DANXIA PARK - ZHANGYE (B/L/D)**

Early in the morning, we will get up to go to Binggou also known as “Chinese Bryce Canyon”, which was listed by American Journal of Geography in 2011 as “the world’s ten great wonders of the world “.Binggou is smaller and different to ZhangYe Danxia. BingGou is about rock formations whilst ZhangYe is more about landforms, geometry and colours. Binggou has totally different landscape and the formations are quite interesting. These formations really do look like ice sculptures melting, which rings true to it's name “bing” which means ice in Chinese.

Late in the afternoon, we shall visit Zhangye Danxia “Rainbow” Geological Park.

Spend the whole late afternoon capturing this natural beauty till sunset time.

There are 4 Viewing Platforms stretching of a distance of 8km in total and may take more than 2 hours to complete all when taking the Park’s sightseeing bus.

1<sup>st</sup> is the nearest and best view platform, 10 minutes’s walk from the entrance.

2<sup>nd</sup> is the highest platform with 666 steps, a panorama of the scenic area can be enjoyed.

3<sup>rd</sup> allows a view of the famous ‘ seven – colour fan ‘

4<sup>th</sup> the largest platform is the prefect place of catching pictures of the sunset.

Overnite in Zhangye town

**DAY 08 02JULY Sunday : ZHANGYE - MINLE – QILIAN - QINGHAI ( B/L/D)**

Thereafter, drive a long distance to QINGHAI, enroute to have some photo-stop at the view point of some rape seed flower farms. Continue the journey to Qilian for lunch.

Along the way , enjoy the scenic view of the Qilian mountain range.

Late evening, we shall arrive our camp site @ Qinghai lake



**DAY 09 03JULY Monday : QINGHAI WEST SIDE of the Lake – Birds Island – Chaka Salt Lake (B/L/D)**

Wake up early to enjoy the sun rise at Qinghai Lake, at the same time enjoy the enchanting breeze from the lake and surrounding area .

Move on to Niao Dao ( Birds Island) to capture this paradise of many migrated birds. When the spring and summer come, many birds fly from faraway mountains and deserts to breed here. ( note: the busiest time to watch the birds is in May & June, so come early July the crowd will be lesser so are the birds ).

Drive to Chaka Salt Lake city to have lunch and check into our hotel.

Take a rest and later in the late afternoon, we shall visit the Salt Lake till sunset time.

( if you do not want to walk into the lake area, you may option to buy the train / green bus ticket on your own)

. Well, if you have not have the chance to visit Bolivia in South America for their Uyuni salt lake, Chaka Salt Lake could be the next replacement you see, being one of the most stunning lakes in Qinghai Province, this lake has a long history since ancient period.

Overnite at a local hotel near to the Salt Lake.





**DAY 10 04JULY Tuesday : Chaka Salt Lake - Qinghai South-East side of the Lake) - XINING - XIAN ( B/L/D)**

Early in the morning, wake up for the sun rise .

After breakfast, drive to Xining , the journey will take of about 6 hours, across the Qinghai Desert, experience the different views of along this road across the desert towards Xining, the capital city of Qinghai Province.

Lunch at a local restaurant along the way

Transfer to the airport to catch our domestic flight to XIAN ETD 1720 ETA 1840 ( flight schedule subject to change )

Upon arrival at Xian airport, transfer to our hotel and dinner @ the hotel.







**DAY 11 05JULY Wednesday : XIAN – KUALA LUMPUR ( B/L/D)**

Today for those who like to take on a tour, we are going to visit the Terra Cotta Warrior & Horse Museum, Huajuexiang Mosque & Muslim Street and a walking tour of the City Wall in the late evening to capture the sun-setting over the Wall.

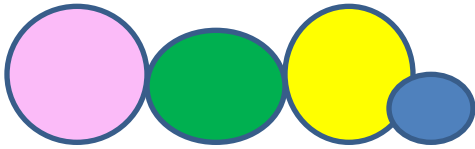
Dinner before transferring to the airport for our departure flight @ ETD 0015

**DAY 12, 06JULY Thursday : Arrivng Kuala Lumpur @ 0515**





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<b>COSTING</b>	<b>Small Group 8 to go</b>	<b>per person</b>
a) Ground Arrangement as per itinerary : Twin Sharing		MYR 6,688.00***
b) Domestic Air ticket one-way including taxes / surcharges		600.00 *
c) International Air Ticket KUL – CHENGDU	600.00	
XIAN – KUL	700.00	1,300.00 **
		-----
		8,588.00
d) Travel Insurance @MYR 78.00		
e) China Visa Single @MYR 120.00		

- **\*/\*\*All air ticket fare / taxes / surcharges are subjected to change and will be charged accordingly as per airlines rate to the nearest MYR**
- **\*\*\* The above ground arrangement rate & Domestic Air Ticket are based on the current exchange rate of TT Rate of CNY1.00=0.64MYR and may be subjected to change and will be re- calculated accordingly on the current rate at the time of full payment. If our Ringgit strengthen, we will reduce the amount accordingly too based on TT rate or v.v.**

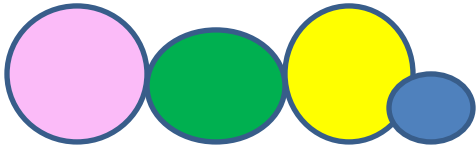
## Flights Details

International Flights : Airlines Air Asia X Flight (D7) : In Chengdu / Out Xian

25JUN D7 326 KUL CTU 0900 1340

06JUL D7 347 XIY KUL 0015 0515

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**25June – 06July 2017**

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## **Ground Arrangement Costing**

### **Inclusive :**

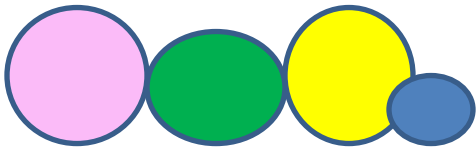
- a) 10 nights accommodation in 3\*/4\*/good condition local guesthouse/Tent Hostel by the lake.
- b) Meals as specified in the Itinerary, including specialties in every different place visiting.
- c) All Entrance fees and ground arrangement as per itinerary
- d) An Experienced “off of the beaten track “ English speaking local guide.
- e) Tipping to Guide & Driver
- f) Daily two (2) bottles of Drinking water per person during the trip
- g) Tour Leader from EL SOL Travel if the group is 16paxs and above

### **Excluded :**

- a) Potter or Hotel Bell Boy’s fee ( if applicable)
  - b) Any other items not mentioned above and in the Itinerary
- 

**Note :** (1) *Pictures used in this promotion material are from the library file and actual sight could be different as nature is subjected to local condition & weather the point of visit and Itinerary may be subjected to change according to local conditions.*

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(2) High Altitude: Some of the places of visit are 3000m above sea-level and may be subjected to high altitude sickness, as such some precautions are necessary such as taking some high altitude sickness medication.

(3) *Off of the beaten track journey*: As this routing involved some off the beaten track, so certain of the journey may take longer than its expected time to travel. The standard and quality of accommodation and amenities in certain untraveled areas maybe quite basic with limited facilities. These are part of the authentic experiences of the reality on the ground; please be prepared and face them with open-mindedness and understanding.

Nevertheless, we are sure you would be rewarded with amazing scenic sights, culture and enriching your travel experience with a difference.

(4) Weather across the 3 provinces vary: between 16 C – 33 C ( subject to change)

## **Booking**

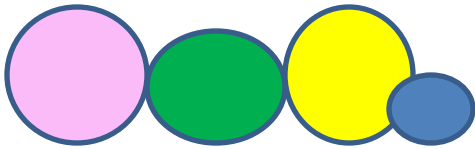
**[laura@elsoltravel.com](mailto:laura@elsoltravel.com)**



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25 June – 06 July 2017

( not-to-scale )

