

ST IGNATIUS PARISH, NORWOOD

# CHINA PILGRIMAGE

*"Ricci and the way of friendship – a pilgrimage through China, from the time of the first Jesuit mission till today"*



Memorial to St Francis Xavier, Shangchuan Island

***YOUR GUIDE :***  
***DR JEREMY CLARKE,***  
***PHD.***  
***SINO-IMMERSIONS***

入乡随俗

*"When visiting new lands become immersed with its people"*

# *Chinese Cultural and Religious Immersion*

## *12 Days*

*Dr Clarke is an experienced Tour Guide who has travelled extensively throughout China since 1985. He is a published academic, Mandarin speaker and student of Chinese history and culture who loves to share his passion and knowledge with others. He will lead this bespoke tour that will immerse visitors in a deeper understanding of China whilst experiencing distinctive pilgrimage sites, monuments and historically significant locations. You will delight in local delicacies, traditions and authentic Chinese culture.*

### **DAY 1 - SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER 2016**

- Transit Adelaide / Hong Kong
- Transit Hong Kong International Airport to Macau via Jet cat

We begin our journey by taking a jet cat directly to Macau, viewing the myriad of islands at the mouth of the famous Pearl River Delta and bypassing the bustle of Hong Kong proper.



### **DAY 2 - MONDAY 17 OCTOBER**

- Tour of Macau

Until the Opium Wars in the nineteenth century, the tiny isthmus of Macau was Europe's gateway into East Asia generally and China specifically.

The rich blend of culture and commerce is still evident in Macau's architecture, streetscape and people. Thankfully the history is preserved and during our first day we'll walk the streets in the old Centro District that Ricci walked, gaze out to China from the old Fort next to the ruins of the Church of St Paul and make sure to have Portuguese baked tarts from the many cafes. Dinner will feature the exotic combination of African, Indian, Portuguese and Chinese influences.

### DAY 3 - TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER

- Historical overview at Macau's excellent museums

Tea-clippers and silk carracks, gunboats and sampans all plied their way around Macau's waters. Jesuits fired cannons in wartime from the fortified hilltop next to their first university in Asia. Today all these stories are told in a fascinating way in Macau's world-class museums. We'll also visit the nearby shopping and dining districts.

### DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER

- Macau to Guanghai transit via the bustling economic hub of Zhuhai
- Ferry trip to Shangchuan Island to visit the tomb of St Francis Xavier
- Transportation to Zhuhai airport and flight to Shanghai.

Culturally invigorated by the sites of Macau, today we experience China's coastal countryside as we wend our way to the small port of Guanghai. This is one of the most moving destinations of our pilgrimage. We'll be making special prayers that the weather is gentle and we're able to cross the strait to the small island where Francis Xavier breathed his last breath in 1552. From the tiny memorial church built on the site, gazing back to China, we'll be able to consider the legacies of this great Jesuit adventurer – one of Australia's patron saints. After this rich experience we'll make our way to Shanghai by plane, and fall asleep near the famous Bund.



### DAY 5 - THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER

- Day tour covering the modern and the historical juxtaposition, which is Shanghai – particular focus on Xujiahui, which is steeped in Catholic Chinese history.

Xujiahui, one of Shanghai's commercial and technological centres, was named after the great friend of Matteo Ricci, Paul Xu Guangqi. Xu. Ricci translated Euclid into Chinese in 1606, and in later years the Jesuits made Xujiahui their heartland, establishing St Ignatius College and church (Shanghai's modern cathedral pictured), a theologate, an orphanage and a university. All these buildings have been re-opened to the public, and the Catholic community is vibrant and active.

#### DAY 6 - FRIDAY 21 OCTOBER

- Vibrant Shanghai – where China’s mercurial economic and social advances can be observed in the skyscrapers and the busy Nanjing walking street, and at the same time China’s turbulent and exotic twentieth century history is on display.
- We’ll visit the very room in which the Communist Party was founded, which is now next door to bars and coffee shops, art galleries and clothing boutiques. The famous French Concession is only a short distance from the best *xiao long* dumplings.
- At night we’ll cruise along the river, viewing the old and the new.

#### DAY 7 - SATURDAY 22 OCTOBER

- Transfer by bullet train to the historic city of Hangzhou followed by immersion within the animated local arts scene. For centuries Hangzhou has supported cultural and artisanal workshops and their wares – painted fans, silk object d’art, exquisite carvings - are all on display at the neighbouring street market. We’ll try local delicacies like West Lake fish in vinegar and braised pork belly.

#### DAY 8 - SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER

- Hangzhou exploration continues with visits to ancient and secluded churches, the amazing Buddhist centre of Lingyin Temple, to be followed by a cruise on the magnificent and beautiful West Lake.

“In heaven there is paradise, and on earth there is Suzhou and Hangzhou”.



Buddhist Temple, Hangzhou

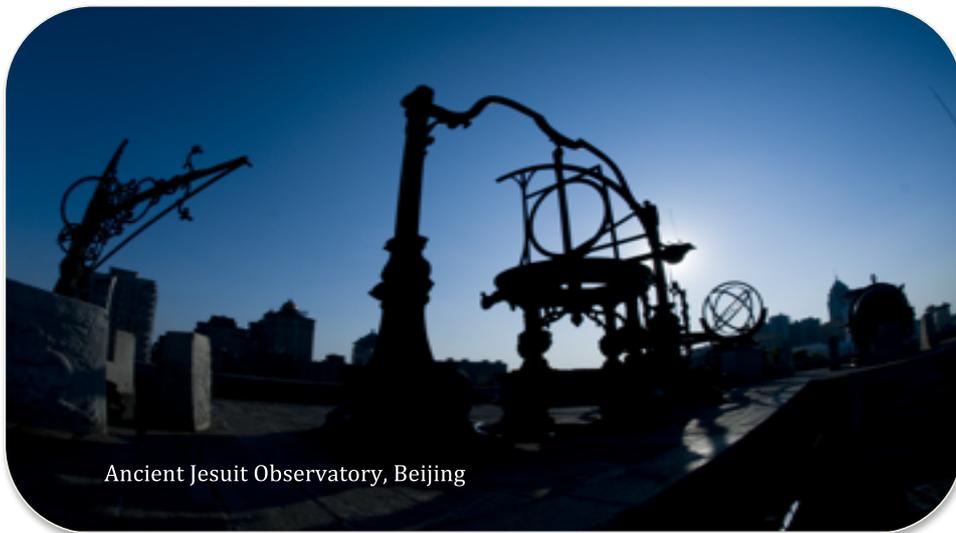


West Lake, Hangzhou

#### **DAY 9 - MONDAY 24 OCTOBER**

- Transfer by bullet train to Beijing, crossing both the famous Yangtze and Yellow Rivers, witnessing the immense diversity of China's rural northern plains. In the evening we'll see Beijing by night, when the city lights up monuments like the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square and structures like the Olympic Bird's Nest Stadium. The chance for a Beijing Duck banquet, and for the adventurous, the opportunity to explore the small bars in little hutongs, Beijing's distinctive alleyways.

#### **DAY 10 - TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER**



Ancient Jesuit Observatory, Beijing

Introduction and uncovering of Beijing's profound history, visiting various cultural and spiritual monuments; this includes the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven, as well as the South Church (built on the site of Ricci's house and church), the ancient Jesuit Astronomical Observatory and the Old Summer Palace, which was designed by Jesuit artists and architects for the Qing Emperor. Most of the churches were closed during the Cultural Revolution but now are packed on the weekends, many of those attending being young students.

#### **DAY 11 - WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER**

- The Great Wall experience – only a short drive from Beijing we'll go to one of the more scenic and readily accessible parts of the Wall. We will visit the section that Mao climbed, where Gough and Margaret Whitlam also walked. We will witness the sinewy and snake like ravines and hills that emphasize the amazing construction feat that is the Wall. There are short and easy sections, as well as a local museum and shops for those who are not as inclined to walk the 2 hour = 5 kilometre circuit.

### **DAY 11 - CONTINUED...**

- In the afternoon there will be leisure time to visit a deluxe mall on Beijing's shopping street or maybe a street market for those last minute purchases, or just observe quotidian Beijing .

### **DAY 12 - THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER**

- Beijing to Hong Kong and then home to Adelaide

### **INCLUSIVE COSTINGS FOR 12 DAY ITINERARY**

This unique pilgrimage explores the Christian engagement with China and its people from the time of St Francis Xavier and Matteo Ricci in the sixteenth century, until today.

The Tour includes:

- Two preparatory information evenings in Adelaide and pre-prepared reading materials
- Assistance with Visa lodgments and collection
- Economy flights from Adelaide to Hong Kong, then Beijing to Hong Kong and back to Adelaide (including taxes)
- All transfers and transportation in spacious and comfortable vehicles with local drivers (including gratuities)
- Visiting 5 contrasting and amazingly different Chinese cities, rich in history and culture, from the south to the north, the tour cost also covers:
  - Economy jet cat from Hong Kong International Airport to Macau
  - Return ferry ticket from Guanghai ferry terminal to Shangchuan Island, the site of Xavier's death
  - Economy airfare Zhuhai to Shanghai
  - Economy fast speed train tickets:

- Shanghai - Hangzhou (50 minutes)
- Hangzhou – Beijing (5 hours)
- Twin share quality hotel accommodation, 4 star (minimum) in prime locations. Single rooming will be available for an additional cost
- All breakfasts and most meals. Meals will feature authentic local cuisine and traditional dishes (ranging from Portuguese tarts in Macau, dumplings in Shanghai and roast duck in Beijing)
- Local guides to provide logistical assistance
- All museum and scenic site entry costs
- \$8,799 per person (twin share), includes GST

N.B. To enhance individual time with Dr Clarke the pilgrimage is capped at 20 pilgrims.



**To confirm a position on this tour please contact Taff Walsh**

**Email: [twalsh@sinoimmersions.com](mailto:twalsh@sinoimmersions.com)**

**Mob: 0413 399 079**

**\$1,000 deposit will be required to confirm your booking**

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