



Hong Kong Gardening Society

Autumn in Guilin and Yangshuo 15 – 19 October 2018

Itinerary

Monday

15 Oct 18

Depart Hong Kong by air

*Arrive **Guilin***

Met on arrival and transfer to hotel

*Hotel: **Lijiang Waterfall Hotel** www.lijiangwaterfallhotel.com*

*After check-in, a short drive to **Guilin's Heishan Botanical Garden**.*

Tuesday

16 Oct 18

*After breakfast depart for the embarkation point for the **Li River Cruise**.*

Disembark in Yangshuo and take an open-air mini bus to the hotel.

*Hotel: **Green Lotus Hotel** (www.greenlotushotel.com/english)*

*After check-in you might like to explore **Yangshuo** and famous **West Street** on your own. West Street is crammed with shops, pubs, café's and hotels where you can relax and do some souvenir shopping.*

*In the evening you might like to attend (optional and not included) the production by the famous Chinese director Zhang Yimou, "**Deep Impression of Liusanjie**". It is performed on the **Li River** with the river and the surrounding mountains forming a natural backdrop. The hour long spectacle is performed by a cast of 600 local villagers.*

Wednesday

17 Oct 18

*After breakfast drive into the scenic countryside to **Licun Village** for a fine view of **Moon Hill**. You can get to the summit of Moon Hill after climbing 819 steps, for a bird's-eye-view of the surrounding hills and a close look at the "Moon" which was once an underground river canal. Climbing is not recommended on rainy days.*

*Continue to the **Yulong River**, set in beautiful rural scenery, where you will embark a bamboo raft for a leisurely and tranquil downstream river trip. Lush vegetation superb overhang bamboos line the shores. (approx. 90 min.)*

Afternoon is at leisure

Thursday

18 Oct 18

*After breakfast proceed to the old town of **Fuli**. Fuli has a history of 800 years and its wharf beside the Li River was one of the most important in ancient times. Many interesting old buildings remain in the main street, some of them still occupied, some of them falling down. The town is considered to be "the hometown of the paper fan in China". The fans are decorated with hand painted Guilin landscapes, flowers, birds, insects or traditional Chinese girls and they range in size from small hand held fans to large decorative items.*

*Continuing through the beautiful and peaceful countryside, take an old country road to the village of **Yongcun**. Pass by picturesque hamlets, tucked among subtropical plants and scattered between rice paddies.*

The afternoon is at leisure

Friday 19 Oct 18

*After a leisurely breakfast depart for the Guilin, visiting en route the **Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guilin Botanical Garden**.*

After lunch transfer to the airport.

*Depart Guilin by air
Arrive Hong Kong*

Guilin and Yangshuo



For centuries, this region of China has been depicted in paintings. Those who have not visited Guilin and Yangshuo, will consider the paintings unreal, fanciful and created in the imagination. When you see the region for yourself, you will realize at once that the paintings are not fanciful at all, they depict an exquisite reality.

The Li River is regarded as the most beautiful river in China. Its reputation rests with a stretch of the river of approximately 100 km. Rain or shine, it's a magical experience and it's easy to see why the dramatic karst outcrops, dense vegetation and the winding river itself, have inspired Chinese art and verse for centuries. The cruise usually takes around 3.5 to 4 hours, depending on water conditions

The famous Li River Cruise has been spoiled to some extent by mass tourism. The scenery, however, has not been spoiled and you must see it. It's a once in a lifetime experience.

In order to take the river trip, a night must be spent in Guilin, now a modern city. It is, however, the gateway to all that is most beautiful in this region.

The Li River cruise ends in Yangshuo, a destination that has exploded with tourism and is for some, a shopper's paradise.

Activities can include cycling, walking and river rafting. For the more energetic, some serious hiking and ancient village exploration.

Guilin's Heishan Botanical Garden

The garden covers an area of more than 40 hectares and has a green seedling production base of 126 hectares. It is a comprehensive enterprise integrating seedling production, greening landscape construction, popular science, and tourism and leisure. The park has more than 210,000 trees and more than 400 species, belonging to more than 100 branches. There are cherished plants such as the medlar and golden flower tea.

Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guilin Botanical Garden

Built in 1958, the Guilin Botanical Garden is one of the earliest of the ten botanical gardens established in China. Two famous botanists, founders, have presided over the work of the Botanical Garden. The purpose of the Garden is to collect the subtropical plant species in South Asia, with a focus on Guangxi endemic plants, limestone endemic plants, rare and endangered plants and various economic ornamental plants. Guilin Botanical Garden covers an area of 67 hectares and has more than 2,100 species of plants. These include 181 national key protected plants. At present, divisions of the Park include a palm area, cycad area, medicinal plant area, flower bonsai area, a rare and endangered botanical garden, a mulan Garden and other exhibition areas. In addition there is a Ginkgo biloba plantation, kiwi germplasm resources and high-yield demonstration gardens.

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Sign-up.

The tour cost will be **HK\$10,070** per person (twin sharing) for members. Single Room Supplement is **HK\$2,090**.

Please note that the cost is based on a minimum of **12** persons signing up. Non Members/ Guests pay **HK\$10,670** (plus Single Supplement **HK\$2,090** if applicable) but this includes membership of the HKGS for the current year (2018).

The tour price covers:

1. Special Economy Class fare Hong Kong/ Guilin/ Hong Kong
2. Local transportation
3. All meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner)
4. Entrance tickets to local sightseeing as per the itinerary
5. English speaking guide
6. Daily bottled water
7. Tips and gratuities.

The tour price does not include:

- a. Transportation to and from the airport on departure and return.
- b. Visa Fees: please ensure that you hold a valid passport with at least 6 months validity remaining, together with your visa for entry to China.
- c. Personal expenses such as room service charges, laundry, alcoholic drinks or beverages for personal consumption, internet charges, fax charges, telephone calls, optional activities etc.
- d. Excess baggage, handling and insurance charges.
- e. Travel Insurance. Please note that full coverage travel insurance from your country of origin should be purchased privately in advance.
- f. 4% surcharge if you pay by credit card.

If you would like to sign up in this tour, please complete the required information in this email - click [Doris Leung](#). This email link will also go automatically to Jessica, Ash, Doris and Graham.

The Closing Date is **7th September 2018**

Let me know if you have any questions or if we can assist in any way.

Many thanks,

Jessica Park
Chair
chair@hkgardeningociety.org

Places we will visit...

