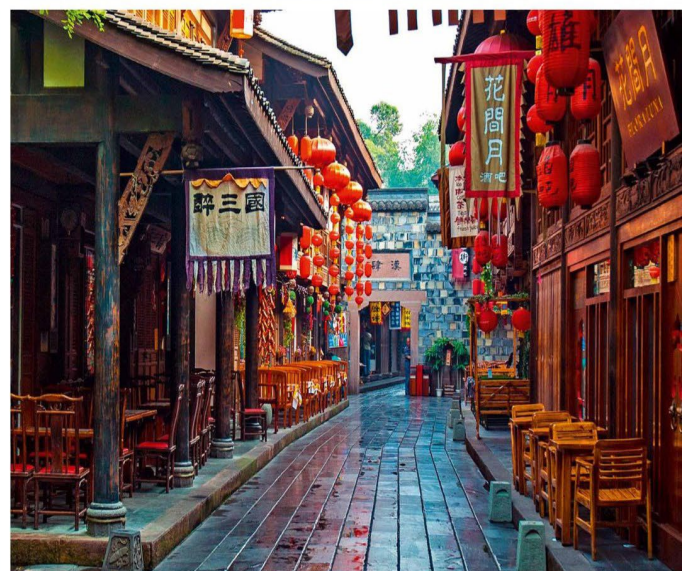
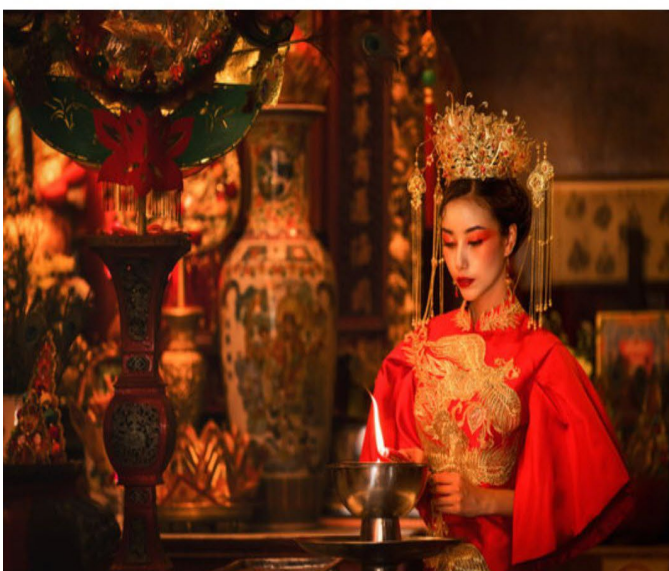


# Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

## Grand Tour of China

### 11 – 23 October, 2025



**21 November 2024**

**Dear RCPI Members and Fellows,**

Thank you for taking the time to browse the details of our exclusive RCPI Grand Tour of China trip, 11-23 October 2025. Embark on a journey through China, where ancient traditions blend seamlessly with modern marvels. Begin in Beijing, exploring the imperial grandeur of the Forbidden City and the awe-inspiring Great Wall. In Xi'an, discover the legendary Terracotta Warriors. Relax aboard a luxurious Yangtze River Cruise ship, gliding past dramatic gorges and serene landscapes. Conclude in Shanghai, where the colonial elegance of the Bund contrasts with the glittering modern skyline, leaving you with indelible memories of a land rich in culture, beauty and innovation.

**Your Grand Tour of China includes:**

- Return international Flights
- 3 Nights B&B [5\\* Regent Beijing](#)
- 2 Nights B&B [5\\* Hyatt Regency Xi'an](#)
- 3 Nights All Meals [5\\* Century Voyage Cruise](#)
- 2 Nights B&B [5\\* Westin Bund Center Shanghai](#)
- 2 Nights on overnight flights
- Local expert guides throughout
- 2 x Bullet Train Journeys
- 1 x Domestic Flight
- All transfers and sightseeing as indicated
- Meals as per itinerary
  - 10 Breakfasts
  - 5 Dinners
  - 4 Lunches

The price is €4,599 per person sharing. The single supplement is €1,949. The non-refundable deposit is €750. Please contact us now on (066) 401 1150 with any queries you may have regarding this trip.

Yours sincerely,

**David Slattery, CEO, Stein Travel**

## Your daily Itinerary

### Day 1 – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October - Depart Ireland

We will start our journey with a morning flight from Ireland. With one stopover, this overnight flight will be a catalyst in building the excitement around the journey on which you are about to embark. Depart Dublin 0910 – Arrive Abu Dhabi 1935 // Depart Abu Dhabi 2115 – Arrive Beijing 0850 (next morning)

### Day 2 – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Arrive Beijing

On arrival in Beijing at 0850, we will be met by our local guide who will travel with us for the duration of the trip. They will help us navigate this fascinating country and provide support throughout. Our base for the next 3 nights is The Regent Beijing Hotel, a luxurious 5\* property in the heart of Beijing. Known for its sophisticated design, exceptional service and world-class amenities, the hotel offers spacious rooms, multiple dining options, a spa and a pool. Early check in has been arranged to allow for a smooth start to your trip. This will mostly be a day at leisure to re-energise after a long flight. An easy walking tour in the afternoon will acquaint us to the area. An early dinner is included to meet your guide and your travelling companions.



### **Day 3 – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October - The Great Wall and Summer Palace.**

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel, after which we embark on a tour to one of the most breath-taking marvels of ancient engineering, The Great Wall of China. Stretching over 21,196 kilometres, with some sections towering up to 30 feet tall and 15-30 feet wide, The Great Wall of China is arguably the world's most iconic structure. After lunch, we will visit the Summer Palace, a vast imperial garden with beautiful landscapes and historical architecture. While here, our guide will unlock the secrets of the Palace and the Dynasties who ruled here. Your day will end with a dinner of Beijing's most famous dish, Peking Duck.



### **Day 4 – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October - Tiananmen Square and Forbidden City**

After breakfast, we visit Tiananmen Square. Not only is it one of the largest public squares in the world, but also a symbol of the nation's identity and evolution. Following this, we will enter the Forbidden City, a vast and historically significant palace complex that served as the imperial residence of Chinese emperors for nearly 500 years. It was the seat of power for 24 emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties, from its construction in the early 15th century until the end of the imperial system in 1912. The rest of the day is at leisure to do some shopping in the beautiful Qianmen Market, become captivated by an acrobatic show or unwind and enjoy the luxurious spa of The Regent Hotel.

### Day 5 – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October - Train to Xi'an

After breakfast, our journey continues with a high-speed bullet train ride to Xi'an. China boasts a total High-Speed Rail (HSR) network exceeding 45,000 km, constituting 76% of the global HSR infrastructure. Traveling at speeds surpassing 300 km/hr, the journey offers panoramic views of the passing landscape, all while enjoying unparalleled comfort. In Xi'an you will spend the next 2 days learning about its importance as a terminal point on the Silk Road and the fascinating history of the Terracotta Warriors. You will stay at the 5\* Hyatt Regency Xi'an, which is located close to Chang'an Park, a large urban park with beautiful walking paths, lakes and gardens.



### Day 6 – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October - Terracotta Warriors, Small Goose Pagoda and City Wall

Enjoy breakfast, before we embark on a tour of the Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum, one of the most significant archaeological sites in the world. Become bewildered at the ambition of Qin Shi Huang and discover why he built these incredible structures and learn about the efforts to preserve these cultural wonders. This is followed by a visit to the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, a monument symbolizing the importance of Buddhism in China. We will end the day's tour with an afternoon stroll on the City Walls, one of the largest and best preserved city fortifications in China. The rest of the day is free to enjoy at your own leisure.

### Day 7 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October - Train to Chongqing. Embark on Century Voyage Cruise

After breakfast, we will take another bullet train to Chongqing. On this journey you will again experience seamless travel offered by this unparalleled mode of transport. Upon arrival in Chongqing, you will check into a Deluxe Room on the Century Voyage cruise ship. Over the next 3 nights, we will float down the Yangtze River, the longest river in Asia and the third-longest in the world, stretching over 6,300 km. It has played a pivotal role in China's history, culture and economy, serving as a major transportation route, a source of water and a cultural symbol. The river flows through some of China's most iconic landscapes, including the Three Gorges and is home to rich biodiversity and ancient historical sites.



### Day 8 – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October- Cruise to Fengdu Ghost City

A visit to Fengdu Ghost City offers a fascinating glimpse into Chinese folklore and spirituality. Located on Ming Mountain, this ancient site is steeped in legends about the afterlife and the journey of souls. Known as the "City of Ghosts," it features elaborate temples, shrines, and statues depicting underworld deities, ghostly figures and scenes of judgment and reward. All meals and drinks are included in this section of the tour.



### **Day 9 – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October - Cruise to Shennv Stream**

This narrow, tranquil waterway winds through towering cliffs, lush greenery and misty gorges, creating a magical, almost otherworldly atmosphere. Shennv Stream is an ideal stop for nature lovers and those seeking a peaceful retreat amid breath-taking landscapes, rich culture, and the untouched charm of the Three Gorges region.

### **Day 10 – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October - Three Gorges Dam, fly to Shanghai**

Disembark from the cruise and visit The Three Gorges Dam to witness the colossal hydroelectric project which is the largest of its kind in the world. This modern marvel stands as a testament to engineering and its impact on the region. Spanning a whopping 2,335 meters, this dam symbolized China's ability to complete massive, complex infrastructure projects and solidified China's status as a global power capable of executing monumental projects. Afterwards, catch your flight to your final destination, Shanghai. For your last few nights, you will unwind in the 5\* Westin Bund Center. Offering stunning views of both the Huangpu River and the futuristic skyline of the Pudong area, it's central location will give you easy access to major attractions, cultural landmarks and shopping areas.



**Day 11 – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October - Yu Garden & The Bund**

Take the morning to unwind and explore the city at your leisure. Savour one of Shanghai's cute café's or spend the day shopping where you will find a blend of traditional markets, high-end designer boutiques and everything in between. In the evening, we will take a stroll from our hotel to visit Yu Garden. As the sun sets, the garden is illuminated by soft, warm lights that highlight its classic Chinese architecture—elegant pavilions, winding pathways, and intricate carvings on stone bridges. We will then take a walk along The Bund, a scenic promenade along the Huangpu River, showcasing Shanghai's iconic skyline with futuristic skyscrapers on one side and colonial-era buildings on the other.

**Day 12 – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Journey Home**

On your final day in China, you will have the option to take the day at your own pace, or embark on a visit to Zhujiajiao Water Town. In the early afternoon, we will transfer from the hotel to the airport for our return flight home.

Depart Shanghai 1855 –Arrive Abu Dhabi 0030  
Depart Abu Dhabi 0220 – Arrive 0735 (next day)

**Day 13 – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Arrive in Ireland**

After an overnight flight to Ireland, you will arrive back into Dublin at 0735. You can now let real life settle back in while you reminisce on the sights, sounds and experiences of your journey through China.