



FUJIAN

OCTOBER 26-31 2019

PREPARED BY THE HUTONG FOR
BRITISH SCHOOL OF NANJING



The Hutong
Education



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF NANJING
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

ITINERARY & DAILY SCHEDULE

DAY	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES
1 10/26	Nanjing - Xiamen	Afternoon Flight from Nanjing to Xiamen Arrival in Xiamen Welcome Lunch Program Introduction and Beach Games
Accommodation: Meals: L, D	Xiamen Bailuzhou Hotel	Evening Hakka Dinner Check into hotel Reflections and Lights Out
2 10/27	Xiamen - Fuyulou	Morning Wake-up and Breakfast Nanputuo Temple Go Game Vegetarian Lunch
Meals: B, L, D		Afternoon Transfer to Hongkeng Tulou Cluster Check in to Tulou accommodation)
Accommodation:	Fuyulou Changdi Inn	Evening Tulou Clan Introduction Dinner Reflection and Lights Out
3 10/28	Fuyulou - Chuxi	Morning Wake-up and Breakfast Bike Safety Briefing Nanxi Valley Bike Ride - Zhengcheng Tulou, Zhenfu Tulou, and Yanxianglou
Meals: B, L, D	Split Group A & Group B Rotate Day 3 & Day 4	Afternoon Hakka lunch in Yanxiang Tulou Scholar's Tulou Rotational Activities - Tulou Mud Design Workshop - Tulou Sketching Workshop
Accommodation:	Fuyulou Changdi Inn	Evening Dinner at Fuyulou Post-Dinner Student Presentations

DAY	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES
4 10/29	Fuyulou - Chuxi Split Group A & Group B	Morning Wake-up and Breakfast Chuxi Lookout Hike Chuxi Rotational Activities - Tulou Storytelling Workshop - Tulou Museum Visit
Meals: B, L, D	Rotate Day 3 & Day 4	Afternoon Hakka Lunch in Chuxi Chuxi Cluster Circumambulation Hike
Accommodation:	Yuqinglou Guesthouse, Chuxi	Evening Dinner at Chuxi Student Presentations Reflections and Lights Out
5 10/30	Chuxi - Tea Plantation - Zhangzhou	Morning: Optional Sunrise Hike Breakfast Drive to Tea Plantation Tea plantation Activities (Tea-picking, drinking, art and snacks on the mountaintop)
Meals: B, L, D		Afternoon Home-style Lunch in a Tulou Bus Transfer to Zhangzhou (2 hours) Check into Diamond Hotel
Accommodation:	Zhangzhou Diamond Hotel	Evening Final Dinner
6 10/31	Zhangzhou - Nanjing	Morning Wake-up and Breakfast Zhangzhou Chill Challenge Final Lunch
Meals: B, L		Afternoon Transfer to Xiamen Airport Return flight to Nanjing

PROGRAM LEADERS



PROGRAM LEADER: JEFFREY SCHWAB

Jeffrey has recently relocated to Taipei to head The Hutong's representative office there. Prior to Taipei, he lived in Beijing from 2008 when he started working in a Chinese travel company focusing on Chinese travelers going abroad. Before Beijing, Jeffrey worked and traveled as a teacher in Nanjing, Jiangxi, Japan, and Portland, Oregon. With a teaching degree from Indiana University, he feels at home in The Hutong's education department, lighting sparks for future programs and destinations. In his spare time he enjoys building up the Taipei Improv scene, studying Chinese, and exploring cultural heritage treasures both tangible and intangible.



PROGRAM LEADER: NITAI DEITEL

Born and raised in New York City before moving to Colorado and eventually out to the beautiful Pacific Northwest, Nitai is a passionate believer in the power and effectiveness of experiential learning and educational travel. Nitai is responsible for managing the overall operations as well as spearheading the marketing projects and Chinese Language programming of the Education Department as it continues to grow.

THE HUTONG EDUCATION'S CHINA TRAVEL GUIDE

EATING

Mealtimes are often the highlight of The Hutong experience; however it is possible there may be a couple surprises along the way. Chinese food in China might not taste like the Westernized Chinese food found abroad, and you may find that your conceptions of what is “Chinese Food” will change over the course of your trip. In China, eating is a bustling, communal activity where dishes are served “family style” dish-by-dish and shared by everyone at the table. Every person has their own rice bowl or plate and we all take bits of each dish and put them onto our own personal bowl or plate. A word of warning, just as there are no boneless chickens in nature, there are no boneless chicken dishes in China so be careful. We encourage all of our students to seek challenge and try a little bit of each dish. Who knows? You may discover a new favorite food!

CHOPSTICKS:

Every participant on our programs will receive you very own pair of Hutong Chopsticks and will be responsible for keeping them clean and bringing them to every meal. If you have never used chopsticks before, don't be embarrassed!

Everyone who eats Chinese food (Even people who grew up in China!) has to learn how to use chopsticks at some point and practice makes perfect! Each person has their own personal way of gripping, so don't be afraid to ask for advice and remember that the main thing is to enjoy the food, no matter how you get in your mouth!

LEAVING WASTE

At many points in China's recent history food was scarce, so nowadays you may see many Chinese order too much food as a way to show their newfound wealth. In traditional settings it is actually impolite to finish all of the food on the table as it says to your host that they did not prepare enough food and you are still hungry! No need to worry about this on our Hutong adventure. We do our best to order appropriate amounts of food to cut down on the amount of waste. You can help us by doing your best to finish as much as you can and don't forget to tell the restaurant staff how good it tastes!

MEALTIME ETIQUETTE

The biggest no-no is to leave your chopsticks sticking straight up in your rice bowl as the upright chopsticks resemble incense offerings at funerals.



THE HUTONG EDUCATION'S CHINA TRAVEL GUIDE

Other chopstick-related tips include not using your chopsticks to point at someone across the table (it's considered rude) and never, ever use your chopsticks and bowl as a drum-set unless you want people to think you are a beggar!

BREAKFAST

Depending on your program, you may encounter breakfast foods that are very different from your normal breakfast back home. Take this opportunity to embrace diversity and try the local fare as you fill up your body with the energy it will need to get through the morning. Chinese breakfasts will include a healthy mixture of rice porridge, eggs, vegetables, and Chinese-style breads; take this opportunity to stretch outside your comfort zone!

TOILETS

Everyone has their own outrageous stories about using toilets while travelling outside major cities in China. So when nature calls, it's time to seek challenge! Things have improved a lot in recent years, but the motto is always to be prepared. Be sure to carry tissues with you as there will often not be any toilet paper provided in bathrooms. In most of China, squat toilets are the norm,

although you'll be glad to know that all of the hotel rooms we use will have western-style toilets. You may come across some very primitive bathrooms where there's little more than a hole in the ground and the plumbing leaves a lot to be desired! Think of the thrilling stories you can tell your friends back home once you've taken care of your business and made it out with your nose and dignity intact! Finally, restrooms in China can be quite the social place with little privacy afforded. Just grin and bear it and make it part of your China adventure!

SHOPPING

On your program, you may head to a market or store to pick up some souvenirs to take home. In most stores in China you are expected to bargain and don't be surprised if the initial price is several times higher than what you should actually pay. Double-check with your Hutong trip leader to see if you should expect to haggle and what the usual prices are for what you're trying to buy. Never be afraid to walk away, as you can usually find the same items somewhere else! Also, once you hand over money to purchase something, it is yours with no returns so make sure it's exactly what you want!



THE HUTONG EDUCATION'S CHINA TRAVEL GUIDE

LANGUAGE BARRIER

In bigger cities like Beijing and Shanghai, it's not uncommon to run into locals who can speak a little bit of English, but a majority of China's 1.4 billion speak only Chinese. Not to worry! When someone wants to communicate with you and you don't share a common tongue, it's amazing how much can be said without words. Whether it be with a calculator if you're shopping or charades, hand-gestures and miming when making new friends, a little patience and a big smile goes a long way!

PHOTOGRAPHY

Travelling through China, you'll find photo opportunities around every turn. From exotic landscapes to mesmerizing locals, you're going to want to have your camera charged every day lest you miss that perfect shot. Be sure to not take photos inside of temples as doing so is seen as disrespectful. You should also avoid taking pictures of Chinese soldiers, police, or government offices. When taking pictures of people, always ask their permission beforehand and then show them the photo afterward. At the same time, it is important to remember that in more remote locales, large groups

of foreigners are quite a sight for locals so be sure to smile more and have patience when people also want to take your picture!

SAFETY

Chinese streets are significantly safer than in most countries or major cities around the world and violent crime involving foreigners is very uncommon. Nevertheless, petty crime can be a problem and there are stories of swindlers or pickpockets who frequent high-traffic tourist areas. Therefore, it is important to keep your wits about you but in general, be aware of your surroundings, and take care to secure valuable items like wallets, bags, and mobile devices.

The greatest danger to travelers are often the most mundane aspects of city life. When crossing the street, be sure to wait until you have the right of way to cross, regardless of what the locals are doing, and make sure to look both ways. Cars may not stop for red lights and more often than not turn right on a red light without slowing down to look for pedestrians crossing with the walk sign. Stay together in a tight group when walking anywhere and always be alert of traffic and vehicles. China really is a safe place to travel if you use common sense



THE HUTONG EDUCATION'S CHINA TRAVEL GUIDE

and always pay attention to instructions from your Hutong staff. Their intimate familiarity with your entire route will help ensure your safety.

PERSONAL SPACE

With a population exceeding 1.3 billion, it's an appropriate cliché to just say that China is BIG. A simple fact of China's largeness is a culture that is much more used to living in tighter quarters than in the West, and Chinese concepts of personal space reflect as such. Places like train stations, airports, and tourist attractions can get extremely crowded so always be aware of your surroundings, be patient waiting your turn in lines, and realize that moving about in public may be a bit different than in other countries.

MONEY

If you are looking to pick up some souvenirs during your program, it is important to bring cash along as ATM's are sometimes difficult to find and most places will not accept credit cards, foreign or Chinese.

INTERNET

Many of the hotels that we stay at over the course of the program will have Internet access for you to keep in touch with loved ones back home. As you may have heard, some popular websites like Gmail, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter are blocked in China so some of the usual means you may use for communication may not be accessible. If you are coming from abroad, we would recommend setting up a separate email address through a client that is unblocked (Yahoo, Hotmail, etc) to keep in touch.



TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

TRAIN NUMBERS

10/26: Nanjing to Xiamen: SC 4704- 9:40 AM - 11:30 AM

10/31: Xiamen to Nanjing: SC 8811- 4:00 PM - 5:50 PM

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

HOTEL ADDRESSES

Bailuzhou Hotel, Xiamen 白鹭洲大酒店
福建省厦门市思明区湖滨南路95号
95 Hubin S Rd, Siming, Xiamen
+86 592 222 6888

Fuyulou Changdi Inn - 富裕楼常棣客栈
福建省永定县湖坑镇洪坑村富裕楼
Fujian Province, Yongding County, Hukeng Town, Hongkeng Village, Fuyu Tulou
+86 597 5532800

Yuqinglou Guesthouse, Chuxi Tulou Cluster 余庆楼客线
福建省永定县初溪土楼群, 余庆楼
Fujian Province, Yongding County, Chuxi Village, Yuqing Tulou

Diamond Hotel Zhangzhou - 漳州钻石大酒店
福建省漳州市南昌路121号
Fujian Province, Zhangzhou City, 121 Nanchang Road

CLIMATE AND PACKING LIST

CITY	MONTH	AVERAGE HIGH	AVERAGE LOW
Xiamen	October	24	19

By late October, the weather in Fujian may vary quite a bit, but fortunately without too much threat of rain. Your recommended packing list is below: please bear in mind that clothes may get dirty and wet and that expensive items are brought at your own risk (and are not encouraged).

Please be aware that you will be responsible for your own gear and will be required to walk up to 1km with your luggage. Please pack light! This will also be helpful when boarding transportation.

RECOMMENDED BAGS

- 1x large backpack or suitcase (Medium size is sufficient 35L-50L)
- 1x smaller day pack

RECOMMENDED CLOTHING

- 5x t-shirts (synthetic/athletic material)
- 2x pair comfortable shorts
- 2x pair comfortable long trousers
- 1x lightweight fleece/vest/jumper/hoodie/sweatshirt
- 1x breathable waterproof jacket or poncho
- 6x underwear
- 6x socks
- 1x sunhat/cap
- 1x pair of sports shoes (suitable cycling and hiking)
- 1x pair of flip-flops or sandals (suitable for evenings)

RECOMMENDED TOILETRIES

- 1x towel
- Small bottle of insect repellent
- Toiletries (minimum)
- Toothpaste and Toothbrush
- Soap/body wash
- Any required medication
- Antibacterial hand gel/ Wet wipes
- Small personal first aid kit (optional)

OTHER RECOMMENDED ITEMS

- **Bicycle Helmet!**
- Bicycle Shorts (with padding)
- Sunglasses
- Torch/headlight
- Pens & Notebook
- Camera

REMINDERS

- Passport and/or ID Card
- Pocket Money (recommended 300RMB maximum)
- **Reusable Water Bottle!**

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

Our Mission at The Hutong is to provide exceptional cultural experiences, in a fun, learning environment. In order to get the most out of our programs it is important that you are clear about our expectations, both for ourselves and of you. Our expectations are born out of our core values:

EMBRACE DIVERSITY

Our Expectations for Ourselves: We try to broaden our minds by engaging with new perspectives and actively learning from others.

Our Expectations of You: There is no doubt that on this program you will encounter something that is “different”. Whether it be different types of food, clothes, people, traditions, language or even toilets. The idea of the program is for you to EXPERIENCE new things, even if they are unpleasant. What we expect is that you approach these situations with a positive outlook and an open mind. Remember; don’t judge a book by its cover!

BE A GOOD EGG!

Our Expectations for Ourselves: We try our hardest to be honest, outgoing, and 100% reliable.

Our Expectations of You: Rule #1 with us is that everyone on our programs respects one another and those around them at all times. This includes not only those who are on the program, but also the local people we may encounter through our program.

LIGHT A SPARK!

Our Expectations for Ourselves: We love what we do and are happy to show you different places and things. We are incredibly passionate about China and we want our enthusiasm to light a spark!

Our Expectations of You: Pleasing everyone all the time is impossible. Yet, when you are inspired about a particular place or activity, you help get your peers inspired too! Moreover, even if something isn’t for you, approach whatever it is with curiosity and an open mind. Keep in mind, one spark can start a prairie fire.

GO THE EXTRA “LI” (MILE)

Our Expectations for Ourselves: We constantly try to deliver more than what is expected and go the extra mile.

Our Expectations of You: You are responsible for yourself and your own possessions. That being said, we ask that you please help each other. Whether it be picking up something someone has left behind, carrying someone’s bag when they are struggling, or offering to help the program leaders and teachers.

SEEK CHALLENGE!

Our Expectations for Ourselves: We try to view problems as opportunities to work together and keep learning.

Our Expectations of You: There is no doubt that you will be challenged at some point. Whether it be challenged using a squatty toilet, eating food that looks funny, speaking to strangers, walking long distances, or climbing a mountain. Like us, rather than complain, view the problem as an opportunity to learn and experience something different.

SMILE MORE!

Our Expectations for Ourselves: We love to have fun, laugh a lot and take time to play.

Our Expectations of You: We will have the maximum amount of fun allowable by law. Please bring your sense of humor!

ABOUT THE HUTONG



At The Hutong, we offer a range of interactive, educational, unique, and fun activities to students and school groups of all different ages. Our interactive programs are designed to broaden participants' understanding of Chinese culture and allow them to experience an authentic side of China. We aim to adapt our programs and work closely with schools and teachers to create customized cultural activities for various Grade Levels and subject areas. By incorporating grade and subject-specific learning targets into the design of our onsite and offsite excursions, The Hutong strives to offer top-notch activities that are engaging and relevant.

Combining our staff's expertise in both tourism and education, we have been running unique and creative study tours to off-the-beaten-track destinations since 2009, with thorough professionalism and maintaining an impeccable safety record. We aim to broaden students' horizons by exposing them to memorable experiences throughout China. Our typical educational tours focus on a combination of cultural immersion and outdoor education. We place an important emphasis on experiential learning. We do not just visit tourist spots, but we experience the places we visit and take a step deeper. The majority of our team has a background in both travel and education and this is where we look to excel.

Each year we expand our destinations and topics. Our goal is to work closely with schools to incorporate their curriculum and learning objectives in our educational travels, and give the students and staff exceptional experiences. The Hutong is happy to propose customized offsite programs that build upon the units of inquiry taught in your school.

The Hutong places particular emphasis on experiential learning, and works increasingly to give its students the opportunity to service the communities they visit. Students who attend Hutong trips engage with global issues by collaborating to plan and execute community service programs. They leave the trip with a renewed sense of their strengths and abilities, as well as a more solid understanding of ethical tourism and global development.

CONTACT INFORMATION



Nitai Deitel
Nitai@thehutong.com

Web: www.thehutong.com
Email: education@thehutong.com
Tel: +86 159 0104 6127

1 Jiudaowan Zhongxiang | Beixinqiao | Dongcheng District | Beijing | 100007 |
China
中国北京东城区北新桥九道湾中巷1号100007



The Hutong
Education