INSIDER’S CHINA

Paradise in the Ancient Villages of

Guizhou and Guilin

May 9 - 20, 2015

Presented by

With Professor Vince Resh

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Shanghai • Kaili • Huanggang • Zhaoxing • Tangan • Longsheng • Guilin • Shanghai
Join Cal Alumni for an insider’s exploration of China’s ancient villages and minority cultures in Guizhou and Guangxi. Breathe the fresh air of the countryside, escape the hustle and bustle of the mega-cities, and experience the stunning scenery of southern China. Immerse yourself in traditional life in the most mountainous regions of the country, still resisting the modern boom. Set amidst the spectacular limestone landscape of dramatic gorges and canyons, the terraced hillsides and sweeping vistas are enchanting and uplifting.

The ancient Miao people continue to live life as they have for hundreds of years along the riverside in traditional wooden buildings. Famous for withstanding the test of time, most of the villages remain untouched by modernization, with precious traditional houses, temples, ancestry shrines, and intricate grand towers. The Miao are blessed with melodic voices. Singing has been an integral part of Miao society for millennia. It is no surprise that Kaili is referred to as “The Homeland of Music.” The Miao’s colorful music is accompanied by dancing and the lusheng, a traditional instrument made of bamboo reed.

Zhaoxing is the largest Dong ethnic village in China, boasting a grandiose Dong drum tower complex. Tang’an Dong Village is renowned as the most ancient Dong Village in the country and is touted as a living museum of Dong heritage. When hiking up to the village, an ocean of rice terraces stretch into the horizon. The sight is so awe-inspiring that it will stay in your heart forever. The ornate Dong drum towers serve as a symbol of good fortune and prosperity. They serve as the center of the village life where locals meet, relax, or simply hang out.

In Longsheng, stay at Li An Lodge, a boutique hotel with 16-rooms perched atop cascading rice terraces. Designed by a Chinese-American photographer, the lodge itself is a work of art. Each room is uniquely decorated with the private art collection of the owner. Hike the lush landscape and explore Longji Village home to Yao and Zhuang people known for their colorful dress.

From Guilin, cruise down the Li River, against a backdrop of majestic karst peaks and ancient villages. Pass fishing villages and bamboo groves, so characteristic of southern China. Disembark in Yangshuo to explore local villages and meet the folks whose families have lived there for many centuries.

All along the way, professor Resh and your resourceful local guides will provide insightful commentary that gives context to the China you will see. These enchanting regions will create memories for a lifetime.

* The Cal lecturer’s participation is contingent on a minimum number of paying travelers. We cannot guarantee group size.
Tour Highlights

Experience the Delights of a Well-Crafted Itinerary

- Visit Taiyanggu, a Dong and Miao Minority Costume Museum. The museum supports cultural preservation and the local community, hiring minority women to reproduce costumes using traditional handicraft techniques.

- Explore ancient Huanggang Dong Village, one of the best-preserved Dong villages in the region. Immerse yourself in old folk customs and traditional architecture.

- Hike through Tanganza’s lush rice terraces and visit the homes and schools of local villagers.

- In Longsheng, stay at Li An Lodge, a 16-room boutique hotel owned by an American-Chinese photographer. The lodge is perched atop cascading rice terraces and each room is individually decorated with one-of-a-kind arts, crafts and furnishings.

- Experience the colorful Yao and Zhuang cultures. Explore the village markets and meet with local artisans.

- In Guilin, cruise the sublime Li River against a backdrop of stunning karst peaks and rustic villages.

- End the main tour in China’s fastest growing city, Shanghai, with a gala farewell dinner featuring sumptuous Shanghai cuisine.

Cal Discoveries Enrichment Lecturer

Professor Vincent Resh

Vincent H. Resh has been a professor of Environmental Science, Policy & Management at the University of California, Berkeley since 1975. Professor Resh has been an adviser to the World Health Organization and other United Nations Organizations for over 20 years in evaluating human impacts on water resources in developing countries in Asia and Africa. He also serves on various science advisory boards on water issues in California. He received the University of California’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 1995 and has taught about issues related to water and the environment to over 20,000 Berkeley undergraduates. His lectures will cover the geopolitics of water in the region, and the interactions between environmental constraints and economic development in China. He is an experienced Cal Discoveries enrichment lecturer. He will be accompanied by his wife Cheryl.
May 9 - 10 • U.S. - Shanghai
Depart the U.S. for Shanghai. Arrive the next day and transfer to the hotel. (meals aloft)
• Accommodations at Jinjiang Tower Hotel located in the heart of the French Concession.

May 11 • Shanghai - Guiyang - Kaili
After breakfast, fly to Guiyang, the capital of Guizhou. Upon arrival, transfer to Kaili, the epicenter of Miao culture in Guizhou. Check in at your hotel.
In the afternoon, tour a village nearby and experience ancient customs and traditions.
Dinner is at the hotel. After dinner, walk the nearby market square for an immersion into local culture. (B,D)
• Accommodations at the Grand Metro Park Heaven-Sent Hotel

May 12 • Kaili
Today marvel at the vibrant minority villages outside Kaili. See how geographic isolation allows these remote villages to carry on their traditional life. Visit Jidao Miao Village, Datang Miao Village, and Paika Village. The Miao are famous for their festivals and melodious voices. You will have an opportunity to witness traditional song and dance performances.

May 13 • Kaili - Zhaoxing
In the morning, drive to Yangjia through a scenic countryside. Wander Gaoyao village. A 10-minute walk to the top of the hill grants you a stunning bird’s-eye view of the rice terraces and the distant villages on the hillside! Take some time to soak in the incredible scenery.
Drive along the highway to Rongjiang and take in the picturesque countryside.
Have lunch in Rongjiang at a local restaurant.
Continue on to Huanggang (1.5 hour drive on a highway) to visit a Dong Village. 300 households (1600 people) live in this ancient village with 800 years history. There are five drum towers and traditional architecture all around. The village is one of the best-preserved Dong villages in the region. Immerse yourself in the old ways of life and folk customs.
Drive to Zhaoxing, the crown jewel of Guizhou, (1 hour) and check into your hotel. Enjoy a village tour with dinner at local restaurant. (B,L,D)
• Accommodations at Zhaoxing Guest House

May 14 • Zhaoxing
In the morning, explore Tangan Village and visit the museum sponsored by the Dutch Government to help preserve the age old eco-system of the region. Go on a hiking tour of Tanganzai through rice terraces to Xiage Village. For a more rigorous hike, walk back to Zhaoxing (3-4 hours). Those who prefer a more leisurely hike, can explore for two hours. Then, take the bus back to Zhaoxing for lunch.
Lunch is at a local restaurant in Zhaoxing.
In the afternoon, tour local villages and meet with families. Wander Jitang...
Village, Dengjiang Village or Nongbang Village. You may buy clothes from local women and play with the children. Here women continue to make traditional clothing from scratch. (B,L,D)

May 15 - 16 • Zhaoxing - Longsheng
Drive to Longsheng (4 hours) along the beautiful river and scenic mountains. Spend two nights at the lovely Li An lodge. Longsheng is famous for rice terraces cut into precipitous hills that farmers have cultivated since the Yuan dynasty (13th ADE). Spring and summer are particularly beautiful seasons as the paddies fill with water and reflect the changing panorama of the sky. A little later, skeins of luscious green rice plants create remarkable views throughout the valley. Longsheng is the home of Yao and Zhuang minorities who both continue to don colorful dress and carry on their traditions. Hike the rice terraces and explore the village markets and delightful craft shops. (B,L,D)

- Accommodations at Li An Lodge.
Li An Lodge is a wonderful boutique inn with 16 rooms created by an American-Chinese artist. The lodge is a work of art itself, using Vietnamese hardwoods and the owner’s art and crafts collection in every room. All three meals will be prepared by the chef of the lodge with the freshest produce he personally picked from the farmer’s market that morning. Situated above the rice terraces with a commanding view of the valley, there is a moderate uphill hike to reach the lodge (30-50 minutes walk.) Your luggage will be carried separately, and if you require assistance for the hike, your guide can negotiate the price of a rickshaw ride for you.

May 17 • Longsheng - Guilin
Continue to explore the paths and life of Longsheng until early afternoon. Then, drive to Guilin. Guilin is world famous for its spectacular karst limestone formations, vertical mountains thrust up from the seabed some 300 million years ago. Eroded over the millennia by water and winds, these picturesque mountains, immediately recognizable to anyone familiar with Chinese painting, have provided inspiration for countless Chinese artists. Dinner is at the Zuoan Restaurant. (B,L,D)
- Accommodations at the Waterfall Hotel by the Li River

May 18 • Guilin (Li River Cruise)
This morning, cruise down the Li River, winding past Mural Hill, Folded Brocade Hill, Crescent Moon Hill, and many more. The four-hour cruise navigates some of the region’s most stunning karst formations. After disembarking, check in to your hotel. Then take a ride to Liugong & Mushang Village, a gorgeous agricultural valley surrounded by distant karst scenery. Walk into the fields to enjoy another experience of rural China, this time in the middle of a visual paradise.

In the evening explore lively Xijie (West Street) filled with restaurants, shops, and local inns. Xijie is the home away from home for numerous Westerners and so exudes a cosmopolitan air as well as an invitation for a rollicking good time. After dinner on your own, enjoy Zhang Yimou’s show “Impressions of Sister Liu.” Zhang is a world famous movie director with Oscar nominated movies like “Raise the Red Lantern”, “Hero” and “House Full of Daggers.” He was the director of the opening of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

After the show, transfer back to your hotel in Guilin. (B,L)

May 19 • Guilin - Shanghai
This morning, fly to Shanghai. The afternoon is free for personal exploration and shopping. Enjoy a farewell dinner at Xi Family Restaurant featuring sumptuous Shanghai cuisine. (B,D)
- Accommodations at Jinjiang Tower Hotel.

May 20 • Shanghai - U.S.
After breakfast depart for the airport and your return flight. Arrive in the U.S. the same day. (B,m,meals aloft)
Spend three days experiencing the grandeur of the Qing dynasty Imperial Resort at Chengde, a two-hour drive north of Beijing. An UNESCO World Heritage Site with a history of more than 300 years, this is one of the great cultural landmarks in all of China.

The garden complex includes imperial halls, southern-style lake gardens, Mongolian yurts, and a wooded hillside with numerous pavilions. Beyond the palace many Buddhist temples were built, each one architecturally unique, of which five remain.

**Pre-Tour Extensions: Come to China Early**

**Chengde Summer Palace**  
May 6 - 10, 2015

See some of imperial China’s most magnificent sites. Marvel at the architecture and the dynastic culture of the Ming and Qing emperors.

In Beijing, learn why China remains the world’s oldest continuous civilization. Traverse rugged mountains on the serpentine course of the Great Wall, the most enduring symbol of China. In the city of Xian see the Qin dynasty come alive through the extraordinary 2,300-year-old life size terracotta warriors in the tomb of China’s first emperor. Walking Muslim Street, connect to the country’s Islamic past.

**Ancient Capitals of Beijing and Xian**  
May 5 - 10, 2015

Explore Shanghai for 3 days and find out first hand why this world-class city is featured on many of the world’s top travel destination lists. Experience the highlights, from the ultra-modern Skyline of the Pudong to the colonial history of the French Concession. Soak in the effusive Chinese charm of Yuyuan Gardens and marvel at the magnificent collection of antiquities and art at the Shanghai Museum. Renowned for being the epicenter of the technological boom driving China’s economy, feel the pulse of the dynamic city that is shaping the future of China.

**Post-Tour Extensions: Stay in China Awhile Longer**

**Shanghai: China’s Future**  
May 20 - 23, 2015

**The Majestic Huang Mountains & Ancient Villages**  
May 20 - 24, 2015

**Three Gorges Along the Mighty Yangzi River**  
May 20 - 24, 2015

**The Delights of Hong Kong Harbor**  
May 20 - 23, 2015
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Tour Cost

Main Tour, Per Person, Double Occupancy $4,450
Single Supplement $1,450

Extension Prices: TBD

Roundtrip International Air available through Airtreks. For pricing, please contact Airtreks directly at 415-977-7136 or at china-advo-cates@airtreks.com.

Private Airport Transfers upon arrival in Beijing and departure in Shanghai are recommended and can be scheduled through China Advocates. Call 1-888-333-2585

Main Tour Includes: • Double occupancy accommodations • All meals listed in itinerary • All sightseeing, entertainment, and cultural activities listed in itinerary • Chinese airport taxes • All air and ground transportation within China • English-speaking Chinese local tour guides • China Advocates’ national tour director (with a minimum of 10 participants) • Gratuities to local guides and drivers on main tour • Preparatory materials

Not Included: • Domestic U.S. and international airfare • Gratuities to national tour director • Gratuities on extensions • Airport transfers and porterage • Visa processing • Meals not included in the tour • Excess baggage charges • Travel insurance • Liquor, wine, & beer, and other items of a personal nature

For more information, please call Cal Discoveries Travel at 888.225.2586 / 510.900.8222
or email caldiscoveries@alumni.berkeley.edu
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Reservations: Bookings are subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in these sections. By placing a deposit you agree to the terms and conditions listed herein. To confirm your reservation, a deposit of $700 per person is required. Credit card payment is accepted for the deposit only; final balance must be paid by check.

Air: Air cancellations and penalties are based on each carrier and ticket. Be sure to review these policies before purchasing air via Airtreks, China Advocates, Inc., Cal Alumni Association and Cal Discoveries Travel are not responsible for any penalties incurred due to air changes or cancellations.

Cancellations: No cancellation is valid until it is received in writing by the office of Cal Discoveries Travel. Cancellation penalties are based on the date of receipt of written notice and are as follows: 91 or more days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of $500 per person is retained; 90-46 days prior to departure, $1,500 per person; 45-31 days prior to departure, $2,500 per person; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made.

Cancellation penalties for additional hotel nights, hotel and cruise ship room upgrades, tour extensions, and any special arrangements, are as follows: 50-31 days prior to departure, 25% of cost is retained; 30-0 days prior to departure, no refund is made. No refunds will be given for unused portions of the tour.

Responsibilities: China Advocates, Inc., Cal Alumni Association and Cal Discoveries Travel act only as agents for the various carriers for which tickets are provided and assumes no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, vessel, carriage, aircraft, motor vehicle or other conveyance which may be used either wholly or in part, in the performance of their duty to the passenger. Neither will they be responsible for any act, error, or omission or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by a reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or for any hotel proprietor, hotel service or restaurant, or for any other person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passengers as members for the tours. No refunds will be given for unused portions of the tour. Refunds for unused carrier tickets may be only in accordance with the regulations of the carrier. CST 2064278-40.

Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. All legal questions will be settled within the jurisdiction of the County of San Francisco, California.

Visa: To obtain a Chinese visa, a passport is required that is valid for at least six months beyond the duration of the tour. Travelers are responsible for their own visas.

Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended and available. You will receive travel insurance information once you are confirmed on the program.

Itinerary is subject to modification.

Prices are subject to change without notice.

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Tour Reservation Form

Cal Alumni Association  Insider’s China  May 9 - 20, 2015

Enclosed is a deposit for $ ____________________ ($700 per person) to hold __________________ place(s).

Please make checks payable to China Advocates. Final payment is due February 9, 2015.

Name (1) __________________________________________________ Birthdate _______________________

please print your name as it appears on your passport

Name (2) __________________________________________________ Birthdate _______________________

please print your name as it appears on your passport

Address______________________________________________________________________________________ _______

City ___________________________________________________________ State ______________ Zip ___________________

Phone: Home ___________________________________________ Alternate___________________________________________

E-mail _____________________________________________________________________________________________

Accommodations:  □ Double   □ Single  □ I need assistance in securing a roommate.

(I understand that if a roommate cannot be secured for me, I agree to pay the single supplement fee(s).)

□ Non-Smoker   □ Smoker   Bed Request:  □ One Bed   □ Two Beds (if available)

I/We understand that, by signing below, I/we acknowledge that the Responsibilities and Conditions section of this flyer has been read and accepted.

Signature __________________________________________________ Date _________________________

Signature __________________________________________________ Date _________________________

Credit Card Payment for Deposit  □ Visa   □ MasterCard   □ American Express

Card Number:_____________________________________________ Exp. Date ______________CVV Code : _______________

(Visa/MC 3 digits on back, Amex 4 digits on front)

Signature __________________________________________________ Date _________________________

(Credit card payment is for deposit only. Balance must be paid by check.)

Mail or fax reservation form with deposit to:
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Fax: 510.642.6100
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