



# ECLIPSE NEWS

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## Special features:

- Limited Shopping
- Walking Tours
- Solar Eclipse Lecture
- Chinese history
- Hong Kong



## CHINA TO WITNESS ANNULAR SOLAR ECLIPSE AT SUNRISE

At sunrise on May 21, 2012 the shore of eastern China will witness a rare annular solar eclipse. What makes the China location special is that the event will occur at sunrise giving observers a very strange sunrise. The sun will be eclipsed by the moon and a golden ring will hang over the eastern sky.

Tropical Sails Corp has been offering solar eclipse trips for 20 years, beginning with Baja in 1991. This will be our third adventure to China. Our national operator understands what is important to us. We have eliminated most required shopping. We had shortened some days to allow time to enjoy the hotel lobbies. Past customers raved about the hotels we used, but commented they had too little time to enjoy them.

Past customers suffered with the weather. A July and August solar eclipse led us deep into China at the wrong time



Happy Eclipse Chasers, Tianhuangpig reservoir near Anji, Zhejiang

of year. This time, the late spring should be great for our walking tours, bicycle rides, garden tours, and trekking to the top of the Great Wall.

The spring weather should lead to clear skies in the morning as typhoon season is

two months away. Forget about the eclipse, and tour China and see incredible sites. Visit our website to view videos. **Or better yet, order a free DVD from us with actual footage from previous treks.**

## SPECIAL ITINERARY OFFERS MORE OF WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE AND DO.

Tropical Sails Corp has organized this tour to do away with some of the frustration of typical China tours. Required shopping has been reduced to just two stops. The pearl outlet in Beijing and the silk factory. Past custom-

ers enjoyed the silk factory. They hated the jade factory, so it is gone. The Beijing local insisted on one stop at the pearl factory. It is to take no longer than an hour. Then on to Yaxiu, where you can buy anything you need to keep you very happy. Many past

customers bought suits, dresses, electronics, tripods, etc.

We added optional low impact activities, walks and fun activities past customers enjoyed. We included the entertainment people liked.

## RING OF FIRE YUNNANCHINA TOUR

### 16 days 15 nights including an Annular Solar Eclipse May 21st.

Day 00: Depart USA.

Day 01: 09th May Arrive in Shanghai

Arriving in Shanghai, take taxi or maglev & taxi to hotel.

Overnight in Shanghai

### Day 02: 10th May Shanghai B/L/D

Shanghai is a city that must be seen to be appreciated. Morning visit the Yuyuan Garden. Laid out in the 16th century by a Ming official, this small (2 hectares) garden is a delight of pools, pavilions and rock gardens. Strolling through the bazaar surrounding the garden, you will find lines of stores that sell traditional Chinese arts and crafts. Then visit Chenghuang Bazaar. Next comes The Bund, one of the most famous thoroughfares in China and here you will see a collection of buildings dating from the 1930's displaying their western influence and fulfilling the role of the commercial heart of Shanghai. Then visit the TV Tower of the Oriental Pearl which is the highest in Asia. Here you can get a panoramic view of the Bund and Pudong New area. After dinner, take night cruise on Huangpu River. Overnight in Shanghai

### Day 03: 11th May Shanghai – Kunming by flight B/D

In the morning take flight from Shanghai to Kunming. Then visit the Bamboo Temple where you can see "the sculpture treasure of Orient" - 500 colorful clay Buddhas. Overnight in Kunming

### Day 04: 12th May Excursion to Stone Forest B/L/D

After breakfast, go to visit the Stone Forest, Yi People's region. A typical Karst formation, the Stone Forest covers an area of more than three hundred square kilometers. Scientific research has shown that what is now the Stone Forest was 270 million years ago an immense expanse of water with a vast stretch of limestone sediment formed over the years on the seafloor. As a result of the crustal movement, the seabed rose gradually and a large piece of land thus came into being. Exposed to rains and winds, eroded by the elements, the strange-looking limestone ranges were shaped by time. About 200 million years ago numerous stone peaks, pillars, and stalagmites rose abruptly from the ground and towered into the sky, extending now as far as the eye can see, looking like a vast forest of stone, hence the name "the Stone Forest". Overnight in Kunming



Stone Forest



### Day 05: 13th May Kunming – Dali by road B/L/D

In the morning drive to Dali, Bai People's region. After lunch, visit Three Pagodas which known as the Chongsheng Santa and situated on top of the ruins of Chongsheng Monastery, the Three Pagodas lie one kilometer northwest of Dali and located on the slope of Mount Cangshan. Then take a strolling on the Dali Old Town. The history of Dali Old Town can be traced back to the Tang Dynasty when Dali was the capital of Nanzhao Kingdom, which is the home to Bai minority. The town, whose format is like a chess board with four gates guarding in the directions of east, south, west and north stands between Cangshan Mountains and Erhai Lake, a natural configuration that seems specially designed for a good bountiful life.

### Day 06: 14th May Dali B/L

After breakfast visit morning market in Xizhou and and the Bai Traditional House in Zhoucheng. Afterwards take a boat cruise on Erhai Lake which is the largest highland lake next to Dianchi. The lake covers an area of 250 square kilometers and is located about two kilometers east of Dali. It is like a crescent lying between Cangshan and Dali city as seen from Cangshan Mount. In a sunny day, the crystal waters of Erhai Lake and the snow mantled Cangshan Mount radiate with each other. Thus the scene was commonly described as "Silver Cangshan mountain and Jade Erhai lake". Overnight in Dali

### Day 07: 15th May Dali – Shangri-la by road B/L/D

Morning drives to Shangri-la, Tibetan People's region, visit the Tiger Leaping Gorge en route, which is believed to be the deepest gorge in the world. From the top of the gorge you look down the steeply angled (70-90 degrees) mountain sides to the rushing Golden Sands (Jingsha) River with its 18 frothing rapids more than 200 meters (about 700 feet) below. Upon arrival, check in the hotel. In the evening visit Zhongdian old town with Tibetan old streets and houses and enjoy the local people dancing performed by Tibetan people in the middle square of old town. Overnight in Shangri-la

### Day 08: 16th May Shangri-la B/L/D

Morning take a visit to Songzanlin Tibetan Buddhism Monastery, which is 5 km from the seat of Shangri-la County. Construction began in 1679 and was completed in 1681. It is said that the Fifth Dalai Lama chose the site of the monastery through divination and named it "Gedan Songzanlin Monastery". In 1724, during the reign of Emperor Yongzheng in the Qing Dynasty, the monastery was re-named the "Guihua Monastery". During its time of greatest prosperity, there were more than 3,000 monks in the temple, now there are still 700 monks inside. Afternoon visit Da Bao Si (Ringha Temple) which 30km away from downtown and visit the Tibet Village which is more original one due to few tourist to there. Also have a shot hiking around. Have a Tibetan House Visiting and enjoy Tibetan snacks and drink butter tea. Overnight in Shangri-la





### **Day 09: 17th May Shangri-la – Lijiang by road B/L/D**

Drive to Lijiang, Naxi People's region. And walking on Lijiang Old Town, a lovely traditional town with beautiful wooden houses and crisscrossed with streams of mountain water. Lijiang is one of the best preserved ancient towns in China and is on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Overnight in Lijiang

### **Day 10: 18th May Lijiang B/L**

Morning visit Black Dragon Pool, its name from the waters which sparkle like jade and are as clear as spring water. The entire park is green with grass and shaded by swaying willow trees. Under the Suocui Bridge, a waterfall creates a constant roar as it cascades downstream. Then visit Dongba Cultural Museum. In the afternoon visit Baisha Naxi Village, this is located in the north of Lijiang. It is named this because of the large amount of white sand on the earth's surface there. According to history Baisha is the earliest place for the settlement of Naxi nationality after they entered Lijiang basin. Overnight in Lijiang

### **Day 11: 19th May Lijiang – Guangzhou by flight B/D**

Today free for you enjoy in Lijiang Old town. In the late afternoon take flight to Guangzhou, when arrival, check in the hotel. Overnight in Guangzhou

### **Day 12: 20th May Guangzhou B/L**

Visit Yuxiu Park, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's Memorial Hall, Mayor's House, Zhongxin Square, Shamian Island. Take to discount store (super super store for happiness). Overnight in Guangzhou

### **Day 13: 21st May Guangzhou B/L/D**

AM Annular Solar Eclipse. Then visit Walking Street and in the evening cruise on Pearl River. Overnight in Guangzhou

### **Day 14: 22nd May Guangzhou – Hong Kong by train B/L**

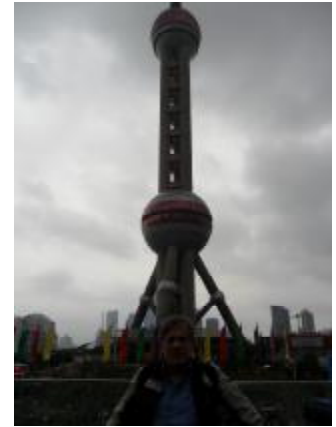
Visit Wong Tha Shein, Souvenir Shop, Duty Free Shop. Take train T362 (1420/1607) to Hong Kong. Meet the local guide and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Hong Kong

### **Day 15: 23rd May Hong Kong B/L/Farewell Dinner**

Visit Exhibition Center, Victoria Park, Ocean Park, enjoy the night scenery. Overnight in Hong Kong

### **Day 16: 24th May Depart Hong Kong B**

Morning is free till transfer to airport to take your flight back home



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*Sailing tours worldwide.*



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Corp

Tropical Sails  
makes Chinese press.

Billions throughout Asia  
marvel at 'beautiful' scene



Shopping List:  
Shanghai: Jiang Nan Silk Factory  
Kunming: Tea Shop  
Dali: Batik Store

Based on 10 pax: 4 star: 3195 USD p/p Single room supplement: 805USD p/p

The quotation includes:

- \* 2 domestic flights with tax in the economic class (Shanghai/Kunming, Lijiang/Guangzhou)
- \* 4 star hotels, twin room with private shower and WC
- \* 1 train Guangzhou/Hong Kong
- \* Daily lunches and dinners (as shown in the program) at local finest restaurants for the land tour
- \* Admission charges where applicable as shown in the tour description
- \* Private A/C tourism coach for land transportation
- \* Professional private guide & driver for the land tour
- \* Two bottles of mineral water per person per day
- \* Service charges for baggage handling between airport and hotel
- \* Domestic travel insurance inside China
- \* Government taxes & Service charge

Not included in the tour price:

- \* International transportation and tax
- \* Personal consumption
- \* Visa fee
- \* Tips for guide, driver and porter

## MAP OF SOLAR ECLIPSE AT SUNRISE



Path of Golden Ring at Sunrise

Tropical Sails Corp will provide safe viewing glasses, also known as Eclipse Shades® to our customers. We will have a limited amount of solar viewing film for cameras and binoculars. If you need larger quantities, see [www.rainbowsymphony.com](http://www.rainbowsymphony.com)

Eye safety is a must for this adventure. Dr. Ralph Chou is the authority on eclipse eye safety. He is a past customer of Tropical Sails Corp.

We will give proper instruction for solar observing before the big day.