Regent China Tours

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Due to the success of a kosher tour to China he conducted in April, 2007, Gary Diamond, in conjunction with Regent China Tours, will once again be escorting a group tour to the People's Republic of China. This tour will be a 15 day tour in which we will visit the fascinating Jewish and general historical sights of China. We will interact with the local Jewish communities and will be given a guided tour of China's main attractions conducted by knowledgeable Chinese scholars of Jewish and Chinese history. In Shanghai, we will have Prof. Liang, Senior Fellow, Shanghai University. Dr. Liang is an expert in Chinese Jewish history, and he will personally guide us to a variety of Jewish sites in Shanghai. The tour will be catered by Dini's Kosher Caterers of Beijing which will provide lunch and dinner in all cities. In Shanghai, all meals will be provided by Chabad of Shanghai. All meals are prepared under the supervision of Rabbi Shimon Freundlich, Harav Hamachshir of Beijing. While in Shanghai, all meals will be under the supervision of Chabad of Shanghai. Arrangements have been made by Regent China Tours to have all meals prepared and served in kosher facilities in all of our 5 star hotels.

We will visit Beijing, Harbin, Xian, Guilin, Yangshow and Shanghai. We will be staying only in 5 star hotels. The price per person is U.S.\$4800. This price includes hotel accommodation, tours, plus all internal flights within China, hotel breakfast, box lunches during the week, hot dinner each day, accommodation at superior 5 star hotels, English speaking tour guides, all transfers, v.i.p. luggage delivery service, tips and gratuities. The price does not include travel cancellation insurance, costs for visa to China and overseas flight from Canada to China or any personal expenses incurred. A general itinerary is outlined below. If you have further questions about any aspect of this tour, please contact: garydiamond@sympatico.ca



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KOSHER CHINA AND JEWISH HERITAGE TOUR TENTATIVE DATES: November 4-18, 2009

Day 1: Wednesday - Depart for Beijing at 2:35pm via Air Canada. Crossing international date line.

Day 2: Thursday- Arrival in Beijing ETA 3:00 pm. Met at the airport by local guide. Transfer to hotel to freshen up. Given more time of the day, visit the neighbourhoods around the hotel. Get familiar with the local atmosphere and rest up before our opening dinner at Dini's Restaurant.

Evening: Introduction to China.

Beijing accommodation at the five star Marriott Hotel (5star), or similar in the same location.

Day 3: Friday - Breakfast at the hotel. Morning tour to the Temple of Heaven, the sacred praying site for Chinese emperors (1420-1911) to pray for good harvest. Explore the Pearl Market and learn to how to find the best quality pearls and various pearl products which has been part of the Chinese culture. Visit the Tibetan style Lamasery housing the world largest single white sandal tree Buddhist carving. Stop for traditional Chinese foot massage and lecture on Chinese medicine and treatment. Hotel rest before Shabbat with the Beijing Jewish Community at Chabad.

Evening: Shabbat with Chabad of Beijing.

Day 4: Saturday- Shabbat Services, followed by Kiddush and lunch at Dini's Kosher Restaurant. After lunch we will take an optional walking tour of the unique Flower Market, Women's Street and Israeli Embassy. Women's Street covers clothing, general merchandise and shoes and hats. Women's Street is believed to be the place that you can find anything you might want. Walk back to hotel for Shabbat rest.

Mincha followed by Seudah Shaleshit and Maariv.

Evening: optional: Spa or Tour of Food market or Reflexology or visit to the Night Market or to Hou Hai, by the river where there are outdoor coffee shops and interesting people watching.

Day 5: Sunday - Breakfast at the hotel. 8: 30 a.m. departure by deluxe coach ride to the Great Wall, initially built in 221 BC by the first emperor of China as a defense against nomadic tribes and has been renowned as one of the 7 wonders of the world. It extends over 10000 kilometers in the northern part of China from the eastern Pacific Ocean to the western Gobi Desert. Picnic lunch in Jade Friendship Store (box lunch from Dini's Restaurant) while enjoying the magnificent work done by elite Chinese jade experts on the spot. Later in the day, visit the Ming Tombs and learn about Chinese Feng Shui as mostly reflected by the layout of the Ming Dynasty Tombs. Return to the city for an early dinner at Dini's Restaurant

Evening flight to Harbin. Harbin Accommodation: Shangri-la Hotel, or similar in the city center. We will have our own kitchen and dining area in the hotel, reserved specially for preparing our kosher food.

Day 6: Monday in Harbin: - Breakfast in the hotel. Guided tour to Jewish Cemetery, Jewish Synagogue

and Museum, with elaborate information given by local guides. There isn't another city in China which has a Jewish cemetery, a synagogue, and honors the legacy of the Jewish community as Harbin does. The Huangshan Jewish Cemetery in the city is the biggest in the Far East. More than 600 Jews are buried there. Late afternoon flight back to Beijing. Check in at the five star Marriott Hotel, or similar in the same location.

Evening meal at Dini's Restaurant.- Evening Free: Option:

Day 7: Tuesday - Breakfast in the hotel. Visit the largest city square in the world - Tian'anmen Square, which holds as many as 3 million people each time. From the Square, we proceed through the Tian'anmen Rostrum to the imperial enclosure - the Forbidden City, also named the Palace Museum, the largest of its kind in the world. It houses more than 9999.5 rooms for successively 24 emperors living inside from 1420 until 1911 (Ming and Qing Dynasties). Take the exciting tour with Rickshaw through old Beijing Hutongs and enjoy a cozy lunch time at a local family (box lunch from Dini's Restaurant). Talk with the residents and get candid answers about their true lives inside the nostalgic courtyards left down from century ago. Enjoy imperial Tea Ceremony and taste the various royalty-entitled imperial teas at the former emperors' tea house in the courtyard behind the Forbidden City. Climb up the Scenery Hill and have a bird's eye view of the modern Beijing City as well as the glistening Forbidden City spread out in front of the hill. Bus ride to visit the awesome Olympic Site, the breathtaking Bird Nest Stadium, the inspiring Water Cubic Stadium.

Dinner at Dini's followed by evening flight to Xian.

Xian Accommodation: Grand Castle Hotel (5star) with private dining room reserved specially for serving our food.

Day 8: Wednesday - Breakfast in the hotel. Excursion to Terra Cotta Warrior Museum, including special visit to panorama movie, Pit1, Pit2, Pit3 and the Bronze Chariot. The Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses are the most significant archeological excavations of the 20th century. Work is ongoing at this site, which is around 1.5 kilometers east of Emperor Qin Shi Huang's Mausoleum. Given time, we will take a glimpse of the warrior duplication site where moulds are created to show how to make it the original way. En Route back to the city, stop at the local cave dwelling village, a primitive way of living in harsh dry lands. Visit Muslim Street in the afternoon. It is a fantastic place to wander around. All shops and restaurants in the street are operated by Muslims. The stalls line the narrow alleys selling almost everything you can expect. If you are good at bargaining, you can get some things at a really cheap price. Hotel rest followed by the evening show of the Tang Dynasty Costume Show.

Day 9 Thursday - Breakfast in the hotel. Morning visit to Shanxi Provincial museum and learn more about Chinese history of the first 2000 years. It covers 65,000 square meters, with a building area of 60,000 square meters. The newly built modern building recreates Tang-dynasty architecture and successfully symbolizes the great extent of Shanxi history and its remarkable culture. Stop at a Ming Furniture Centre. Representing the zenith of Chinese furniture, Ming furniture is treasured for its precious wood, comfortable design, simple decoration and superb craftsmanship.

Early afternoon flight to Shanghai. Dinner at Chabad Shanghai. Night cruise in the harbour over the neon-lit Huangpu River, with a spectacular view of the Shanghai skyline.

Shanghai accommodation: Hongqiao Stateguest House (5star)

Day 10: Friday - Breakfast in the hotel . Morning tour to Jewish Shanghai: the former home of Shanghai's Jewish community, the Hongkou Ghetto and nearby, the former Ohel-Moishe Synagogue. See the Memorial to Stateless Refugees within the ghetto and visit Ohel Rachel Synagogue, also built by the Sassoon family. Drive through the French Concession, where many of Shanghai's fine Jewish estates were once located. Within the French Concession, visit the Arts and Crafts Institute, a historic home and former estate of one of Shanghai's officials. See some of the local crafts designed and created here. Then visit the Sir Elie Kadoorie Mansion (the Marble Mansion), today a Children's Palace, to watch gifted children dance, sing, and play traditional Chinese instruments. If time allows, shop on famous Nanjing Road, around your hotel, or in historic districts of your choosing. Return to your hotel. By late afternoon to prepare for Shabbat.

Evening: Kabbalat Shabbat and Oneg Shabbat with Shanghai's eclectic Jewish community and Chabad emissaries Shalom and Dina Greenberg.

Day 11: Shabbat Morning: Tefilah, followed by Kiddush and lunch with Chabad of Shanghai. Afternoon Rest and walk in Gardens of Hongquao State House. Mincha followed Seudat Shlishit then Maariv.

Evening: Acrobatic Show.

Day 12 Sunday - Breakfast in the hotel. Tour of Shanghai Museum: As well-known as the Museum of Ancient Chinese Art, the Shanghai Museum was established in 1952 and relocated twice before finding a permanent home at its present location, south of the centrally located People's Plaza, in 1996. More than 120,000 precious and rare works of art in 21 categories make the Shanghai Museum the most remarkable cultural institution in the city. http://www.shanghaimuseum.net/ Strolling around the People's Square outside the museum overlooking the stylistic buildings including the City Hall, the City Planning Museum and the Shanghai Opera House. Visit an Embroidery Gallery at the city center given time. Afternoon tour to the bustling old town of Shanghai, also called Chenghuangmiao. It is a traditional bazaar area with most buildings dating back the style 500 years ago.

Day 13 Monday: After breakfast, morning flight to Guilin: Transfer to Yangshuo. There is a Chinese saying: The ultimate beauty of the world lies in Guilin and the ultimate beauty of Guilin lies in Yangshuo.

Yangshuo Accommodation: New West Street International Hotel (5star)

Day 14: Tuesday, - Early morning bamboo rafting down the Li River tributary, bypassing the fields with buffalos, and fisherman with cormorants, and the clear, quiet waters leading into the picturesque mountains. We will have a local farmer as our guide to receive an authentic and candid picture of the area.

Breakfast in the hotel. Leisurely wandering in the old town of Yangshuo right outside the hotel, enjoying the hustle and bustle of the town.

1100 a. m. - Meet and visit one of the old villages nearby Yangshuo (an escape from the tourist chaos) Box lunch will be served from Dini's on the third floor balcony of a private home with panorama view of the striking beauty of Yangshuo. Afternoon tour, venture with local resident by bicycling into the fields (whereas those who prefer not cycling could stay in the air-conditioned bus following the group). Return to hotel for dinner.

Evening: Fantastic evening show of Impression Liu San Jie: It is a huge outdoor performance with 2500 seats. The participants in the show are all local, mostly from Zhuang and Yao background. This is a major production with a cast of 500 singers, dancers, bamboo boats and cormorant birds. However, the outstanding feature is the natural scenery that surrounds the outdoor theatre.

Day 15: Wednesday - Breakfast in the hotel. Morning ride to Guilin. Visit Elephant Hill - The rock hill with an arched hole (known as the water-moon arch) is named after its striking resemblance to an elephant sipping water.

Farewell dinner

Day 16: Thursday: Transfer to airpor; flight from Guilin to Shanghai for connecting flight to Canada.

Price: US\$4800.00 per person

Tour price includes: All domestic airfares, meals, entry fees, gratuities, airport tax and Fuel Surcharge, Deluxe air-conditioned tour bus , English speaking tour guide , Hotel accommodation in five star hotels , Entrance and performances, Government tax es.

Price does not include:

- Visa to China
- overseas flight from Canada or Israel
- Any other personal expense.
- Trip cancellation and out of county health insurance.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

Reservations and Cancellations:

- 1. <u>Reservation</u>: A deposit of \$200 per person is required at the time of confirmation of the reservation.
- 2. <u>Final Payment</u>: Final payment of the total tour fare is due 60 days prior to the departure date. If your payment is not received by the due date, the reservation will be subject to cancellation without notice and the deposit will be forfeited. If a booking is made within 60 days of the departure date, full payments are due immediately.
- 3. <u>Price Guarantee</u>: Your tour price is guaranteed once Regent Network Services, Inc. has received your full payment.
- 4. <u>Credit Cards</u>: Price quotes are Discount Cash Rates. Credit cards may be accepted, but cash discount will not be available.
- 5. <u>Changes in Plans</u>: For any changes you make to your reservation within 60 days of departure that affect destination, departure date, program extension and/or traveler names, a \$50 per person administrative charge applies, in addition to any other fees imposed by airlines, hotels.
- 6. <u>Cancellation</u>: All cancellation requests must be done through fax or mail. Telephone / verbal cancellation is not accepted.

The following fee will be assessed per person accordingly if you cancel your reservation:

- Up to 60 days prior to departure:\$100.00 per person
- 60 to 15 days prior to departure: \$250.00 per person
- 14 3 days prior to departure:\$1,000.00 per person
- 3 days within departure date or no show: 100% forfeiture of the tour price per person
- Refund on unused or changed tour arrangement: Portions of land arrangements, hotel accommodations or any other service or feature of the tour which are not used are neither refundable nor exchangeable.
- <u>In addition</u> to the above stated cancellation charges, tour participant could be assessed additional charges from land suppliers, cruise companies and airlines, which could amount to over US\$1,000 or more if cancellation occurs within 60 days from departure date. Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended.

General Conditions:

1. <u>Tour Price</u>: All tour prices are in US dollars and are based on tariff and rates of currency exchange in effect at the time of printing. These rates are subject to change without prior notice as deemed necessary and fair by Regent Network Services, Inc.

- 2. When the total number of tour members should fall below ten persons, Regent Network Services, Inc. reserves the right to cancel the tour.
- 3. Passports / Visa: All passports must be valid for at least seven months from departure date for all tour participants. All documents / tickets will be issued under passport name. Regent Network Services, Inc. is not responsible when you are denied entrance for any reason at foreign country, even if you have a valid passport and visa. All visa fees are non-refundable for any reason.
- 4. <u>Air Transportation</u>: Air transportation for all tours are based on round trip economy class. Regent Network Services, Inc. endeavors to follow the itineraries precisely; however, if flights are not available at the scheduled time, we reserve the right to modify the air and land arrangements for smooth operation of the tour. All airfares are subject to change without notice.
- 5. <u>Hotels</u>: When the hotel listed in the brochure is not available, the same category hotel or better will be substituted.
- 6. <u>Room Shares</u>: We offer assistance in arranging room shares but cannot guarantee that one will be available. Singles who wish to share with another should request this at time of booking and will be booked as a single but willing to share if possible. If at departure there is another person willing to share then the single supplement will be refunded.
- 7. <u>Baggage</u>: Baggage is at owner's risk throughout. For traveler's convenience, baggage allowance is suggested to one piece per person each for check-in and carry-on baggage. Excess baggage charge and insurance is at owner's responsibility.
- 8. <u>Charge for Children</u>: For children 11 and under, if they are sharing bed with either parent and do not ask for a third bed in the same room, they will be charged the child fare. If they need the third bed in parents' room, they will be charged 90% of the adult fare. For children 12 and over, they will be charged at the regular adult price.
- 9. <u>Tour Fare does not include</u>: Air fare from your hometown to the gateway city, air transportation other than stipulated in the actual itinerary, international airport embarkation taxes, foreign airport taxes, transportation of heavy baggage in excess of applicable allowance, insurance premiums, visa fees, departure airport fee and tips to tour director, tour guides, drivers and in hotels.
- 10. <u>Shopping</u>: Regent Network Services, Inc. does not take any responsibility for any items purchased at shops on the tour. Any after sales correspondence must be between the traveler and the store themselves.

Responsibility

Regent Network Services, Inc., as tour operator, acts only as agent. All travel arrangements included in this trip are made on participant's behalf upon express condition that neither Regent Network Services, Inc. nor its agents shall be liable or responsible in the absence of its (or their) negligence for any direct, indirect, consequential, or irregularity of any kind which may be accessioned by reason of any act or omission of any person or entity, including without limitation, any act of negligence or breach of contract of any third party such as an airline, train, motor coach, private car, cruise vessel, boat, or any other conveyance, hotel, sightseeing provider, local ground handler, etc., which is to or does supply any goods or services for this trip. Participant understands that Regent Network Services, Inc. neither owns nor operates such third party suppliers and accordingly agrees to seek remedies directly and only with those suppliers and nor hold Regent Network Services, Inc. responsible for their acts, omission or commission. Without their limiting the foregoing, Regent Network Services, Inc. and its agents are not responsible for any losses or expenses due to delay or changes of

schedule, overbooking of accommodations, default of any third parties, sickness, weather, strike, acts of God, acts of terrorism, force majeure, acts of government's civil disturbances, war, quarantine, customs regulations, epidemics, criminal activity or for any other cause beyond its control. All such losses or expenses have to be borne and paid for by the participant.

Regent Network Services, Inc. accepts no responsibility for value, reliability, quality or authenticity of any goods purchased while on tour or for any mailing, freight or shipping arrangements. Regent Network Services, Inc. reserves the right to decline, to accept, or retain any person as tour participant, should such person's health, mental condition, physical infirmity or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights, welfare or enjoyment of other tour participant.

Regent China Tours reserves the right to substitute hotels, and alter the itinerary, withdraw any tour and make any desirable alteration for the convenience of the operation of tours. Regent China Tours reserves the right to cancel the tour prior to departure for any reason. Liability for such cancellation is limited to full refund of money received by Regent China Tours, and this will constitute full settlement with the tour member.

All tour fares shown are based on the present value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollars in effect on December 1, 2008, and in current tariffs on the same date and are subject to change. The local handling travel agency reserves the rights to alter or adjust its costs. In the event that the local handling travel agency increases the cost of any service, tour fares are subject to adjustment. The right is reserved to cancel the tour prior to departure for any reason. In such case, a full refund of all payment will constitute a full settlement with the participants. The local handling traveling agency has sole and exclusive control over the operation of all tours. The local handling travel agency reserves the right to make alterations or adjustments in the itinerary as to destinations, transportation, accommodations and all other services. Neither Regent China Tours nor any subsidiary or affiliate of Regent China Tours shall be responsible for any such alterations made by the local handling travel agency.

Baggage is carried at owner risk and baggage insurance is recommended. Regent China Tours is not responsible for typographical or printing errors or omissions in this tour's itinerary. Regent China Tours accepts no responsibility for cost, which may occur as result of a participant failing to secure adequate insurance coverage, which coverage is highly recommended. Canadian residents are strongly advised to purchase out of country medical and travel insurance. Regent China Tours is not responsible for participant's visa or passport requirements, nor will a refund of unused services be ade, nor reimbursement of any additional expenditure if a participant is denied entry to a country for this or any other reason.

The general conditions under which you agree to utilize the services of Regent China Tours may not be amended in any way, except in writing, by an authorized officer of Regent China Tours By utilizing the services of Regent China Tours, you agree that the exclusive venue for all claims shall be the County of Pasco, State of Florida and such claims shall be determined according to the laws and jurisdiction of the State of Florida.

The issuance of tickets and vouchers shall be deemed to be consent to the above

conditions and to these terms and conditions.