

China Tour 2019 – Initial Information

Key Dates:

Tour dates 10 -22 October 2019

Deposit due (\$500 non-refundable) 1 December 2018

Visa (\$105) 1 August 2019

Final payment (\$1800) due August 2019

Passports must have 6 months validity from arrival back into Australia. That means if your passport expires before 22 April 2020 please renew it now

Programme:

Concert programme is still to be determined by Chris van Tuinen, this programme will be the basis of our 2nd concert of 2019 – the whole choir will rehearse the same programme. Rehearsals will begin after our first concert in 2019 probably around end of May (to be confirmed). Concert will be of 90 minutes duration – two 35 minutes halves and a 25minute interval.

Tour programme still to be determined by Chris Howlett but will include 4 cities likely to be Xian, Beijing, Shanghai and Nanjing. One day of travel, one day of performance, and one day of tourism in each city.

Costs:

\$500 non-refundable deposit due 1 December 2018

Remainder of payment (\$1800) due August 2019

Single supplement **probably** \$450 for entire trip

Visa cost \$105 due August 2019

Price covers breakfast, lunch, dinner every day; accommodation in 4star twin-share accommodation; all internal travel (fast train and bus); all entry into organised tourist activities.

Flights from Perth to China will be extra and are **estimated** around \$1000 with a group discount through Singapore Airlines.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Which airline are we flying with?

Still TBC but Singapore, Cathay or Thai Airlines offer the most direct routes.

How can I pay?

Bank transfer, cheque, or credit card can be used to make payments into an account yet to be set up

Is everything included?

Yes breakfast, lunch, dinner every day; accommodation in 4star accommodation twin share; all internal travel (fast train and bus); all entry into organised tourist activities are included.

Where are the performances going to be?

We are currently working on Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing and one other city with availability of halls etc to create the very best tour experience for you.

When will we receive the final itinerary for the tour?

The schedule will be finalized early in 2019. Once we have exact numbers we will apply for the tour license and then we are able to lock in all the details.

Can choristers stay on after the tour for a holiday?

Yes, choristers can stay after the trip, the visa is valid for 30 days stay in China.

Can choristers book their own flights using points?

You are most welcome to book your own flight provided you inform the choir committee prior. It will then be your own responsibility to meet the group at the first hotel.

How do we travel when in China?

We will travel by fast train while in China, it is the most enjoyable way to see China and move from city to city

Can you accommodate my food requirements?

We work endlessly to do our very best to provide a range of different options to cater for vegetarians, vegans, gluten free etc.

Will tours be organised for non-singers?

Tours and local sights will be suggested but not necessarily booked outside of the choir's tours

Trains:

The China high speed rail network is amazing. It is efficient and almost always on time. There is usually a dining car which is very convenient to play cards, drink tea etc. We usually take the train on journeys longer than three hours by bus. This is by far the easiest way to travel in China.