CHINA

SUITECASE SEMINAR

DYNASTIES PAST AND PRESENT

April 10 to 23, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association
We affectionately refer to our China Suitcase Seminar as “China 101.” After a three-year hiatus, we are once again offering this fast-paced trip, designed to be an overview of a complex and immense country. It’s continued to be one of our most popular trips and for good reason: we’ve crafted a program that combines the highlights of China with cultural experiences and local contacts to create a trip that’s been enhanced by years of Stanford know-how and connections. In the midst of its thriving economy, China has managed to create harmony between its ancient treasures and the glittering skylines of its metropolitan cities, making the nation an extraordinary and unforgettable destination for travelers. We’ll be catching up with all of China’s recent rush of changes on this program. Join us for this fascinating “refresher course!”

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**SPEND** three full days exploring ancient monuments in Beijing: the Temple of Heaven, the Forbidden City, the Ming Tombs and more.

**VIEW** fantastic sugarloaf mountains that rise from the flat plains along the Li River near Guilin and have inspired poets, painters and travelers for centuries.

**BE AMAZED** by the vast army of terra-cotta warriors at Xi’an, discovered in 1974 and considered by many to be China’s most important archaeological find.
ANDREW ANDREASEN, MA ’73, MA ’79, PHD ’81, has worked in China for more than two decades, most recently as the executive director of the Stanford Center at Peking University. Prior to his positions with Stanford, he was the chairman and managing director of the consulting firm, Asia Information Associates, a subsidiary of Baker & McKenzie, LLP. During our program, Andrew will offer us a brief overview of the history and politics of China during the past 40 years and will also discuss contemporary China, including such topics as the post-1978 economic and political reforms; Deng Ziaoping and the peaceful transfer of power; the strong leadership of Xi Jinping, China’s current president and Communist Party head; past events that continue to influence the views of its leaders; and the issues facing China today regarding democracy and human rights, the environment, income disparities, and its assertion of sovereignty in the South China Sea.

— Executive director, Stanford Center at Peking University and Stanford (Beijing) Consulting Company, Ltd., 2012–2015
— Chairman and managing director, AIAL Information Consulting Company, Ltd., Shanghai, 1998–2012
— Vice president and chief financial officer, China Cement Corporation, Ltd., Beijing, 1995–1996

“"This trip was fabulous in every way. We saw, did and learned so much in two weeks.”

PAT LEICHER, ’70, CHINA SUITCASE SEMINAR, 2011

SIGN UP ONLINE: alumni.stanford.edu/trip?china2017
OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093

STANFORD TRAVEL / STUDY
MONDAY & TUESDAY, APRIL 10 & 11
DEPART U.S. / BEIJING, CHINA
Depart the U.S. on overnight flights, crossing the international date line en route and arriving in Beijing on Tuesday. Enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

GRAND HYATT HOTEL

WEDNESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, APRIL 12 THROUGH 14
BEIJING
During our three full days in China’s capital city, visit the Forbidden City, site of the Imperial Palace of omnipotent Chinese emperors. Walk through Tiananmen Square, which is flanked by the Great Hall of the People, the Museum of Chinese History and the Gate of Heavenly Peace. Visit the Temple of Heaven, a complex of three main structures: the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, the Imperial Vault of Heaven and the Circular Mound Altar of Heaven. Take an excursion outside of Beijing to see the wondrous Great Wall. Join fellow travelers for a welcome reception on Wednesday and a special Beijing duck dinner. GRAND HYATT HOTEL (B.L.—ALL 3 DAYS; D—4/13)

SATURDAY, APRIL 15
BEIJING / XI’AN
Fly to Xi’an, one of few cities in China with a totally intact ancient city wall; view its South Gate as we enter the city. Walk around Xi’an’s old district, where the Great Mosque and the Chinese garden surrounding it create an island of tranquility, then enjoy a banquet of traditional dumplings at a local restaurant. HILTON XI’AN (B.L.D)

SUNDAY, APRIL 16
XI’AN
Xi’an served as the capital during the reign of Qin Shi Huang Di, first emperor of China. Today we view the legendary life-size terra-cotta army that was created to protect his tomb. Dating from the 3rd century B.C.E., it’s China’s most breathtaking archaeological find. Discovered just in 1974, only part of the treasure trove can be viewed; much of what the emperor created remains hidden beneath the low hills outside Xi’an. HILTON XI’AN (B.L)

MONDAY, APRIL 17
XI’AN / GUILIN
This morning visit the Yangling Tomb Museum, which opened in 1999 and features recent archaeological discoveries from the Han dynasty. In 2006 an incredible extension to the site was opened that allows visitors to view the underground excavation trenches. Fly to Guilin to view the sugarloaf mountains that rise from the flat plains near the Li River and have inspired poets and painters for centuries. SHERATON GUILIN (B.L.D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 18
GUILIN
Spend a full day exploring the scenic countryside surrounding Guilin. Enjoy a cruise down the Li River and watch village life unfold along the banks as we pass limestone pinnacles, rice paddies and bamboo groves. The evening is free to explore Guilin at leisure. SHERATON GUILIN (B.L)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
GUILIN / SHANGHAI / SUZHOU
Enjoy time to relax in Guilin this morning before our flight to Shanghai. Upon arrival at Shanghai’s domestic airport, continue by coach to Suzhou,
crossing into the Yangtze River delta region known as the “Land of Fish and Rice.” Suzhou is a city of classical gardens and silk production that is sometimes referred to as the “Venice of China,” stemming from the deep impression that its wealth and culture made on Marco Polo during his travels to Asia in the 13th century. SUZHOU PAN PACIFIC HOTEL (B,D)

THURSDAY, APRIL 20
SUZHOU
Our stay in Suzhou begins with a visit to the Master of Nets Garden—famous for its elaborate rock sculptures—and continues to a silk spinning factory. Stop at the Suzhou Museum designed by I. M. Pei as well as the Humble Administrators Garden, which is one of several UNESCO World Heritage sites in Suzhou. SUZHOU PAN PACIFIC HOTEL (B,L)

FRIDAY, APRIL 21
SUZHOU / SHANGHAI
Board a coach for our return drive to Shanghai. Visit the city’s Yu gardens and stroll along the Bund, a popular place for early-morning exercise or casual evening walks. Enjoy a magical performance by the Shanghai Acrobats this evening. HYATT ON THE BUND (B,L)

SATURDAY, APRIL 22
SHANGHAI
This morning tour the Shanghai Museum with its astounding 30 centuries of art treasures. Enjoy a free afternoon of independent exploration before our farewell reception and dinner this evening. HYATT ON THE BUND (B,L)

SUNDAY, APRIL 23
SHANGHAI / U.S.
After breakfast, transfer to the Shanghai airport for flights to the U.S., crossing the international date line on our return flights and arriving home the same day. (B)
Trip Information

DATES
April 10 to 23, 2017 (14 days)

SIZE
This program can accommodate 45 participants. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

COST*
$7,395 per person, double occupancy
$8,595 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

INCLUDED
12 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- 12 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 5 dinners
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions
- Gratuities to porters, guides, and drivers for all group activities
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary, including internal flights within China
- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on United Airlines from San Francisco to Beijing and return from Shanghai to San Francisco is approximately $1,200 as of May 2016 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this Seminar to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and very busy. Daily excursions involve two to five miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, including stairs without handrails, high thresholds and cobbled paths. You will need to handle your own luggage at airport customs points where porters are not permitted. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Terms & Conditions

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space on this program. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?china2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members' price. A person traveling as a paid guest of a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. To purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in May 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
"A Stanford Travel/Study trip ensures the camaraderie of intelligent fellow travelers and the bonus of outstanding educational lectures and dialogue with a Stanford faculty leader. I wouldn’t want to travel internationally any other way!"  

SANDRA BERRIS, ‘67, CHINA SUITCASE SEMINAR, 2011