



# AIS China Immersion Program

SHANGHAI 上海 | HUZHOU 湖州 | BEIJING 北京

v. October 5, 2017

EdOdyssey creates one-of-a-kind, fully customizable immersion experiences for a select number of schools each year. With careful guidance from our Western and Chinese educators, this program has been designed for Atlanta International School students and faculty so that they will gain invaluable insight into China's long history, rich cultural heritage and contemporary importance in Shanghai, Huzhou, Hangzhou and Beijing, the capital of the People's Republic of China.

## **MARCH 24 – MARCH 31, 2018: SHANGHAI | AIS SISTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**

The Shanghai portion of the China Seminar will be organized by Atlanta International School's local sister school: Shanghai High School.

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 24 - MARCH 31, 2018 (SHANGHAI)**

*Details to be determined by Shanghai High School*

## **APRIL 1- APRIL 8, 2018: BEIJING, HUZHOU | EDODYSSEY IMMERSION PROGRAM**

During the EdOdyssey Immersion Program students will be immersed in Chinese culture, history and the Mandarin Language in Beijing and Huzhou. We've selected Beijing for its cultural value and political importance as the capital of the People's Republic of China and Huzhou for its location near Shanghai, historical importance and unique setup as it is the ending point of the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the longest artificial river in the world!

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018 (SHANGHAI TO HUZHOU)**

**Morning**      *TBD pending exact train schedule from Shanghai*

**Afternoon**    Train from Shanghai to Huzhou (about 2 hours)

*Exact train schedule to be determined*

**Evening**      Check-in to hotel in Huzhou

Welcome dinner hosted by Anji Shangshu High School

*Anji Shangshu High School was founded in 1984 as China's first private high school. Since its founding the School has developed into an leader in secondary education and vocational education. The school enrolls about 6,500 students and has more than 400 faculty members. At Anji High School students will get to see another typical Chinese campus and interact with students!*

### **MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018 (HUZHOU)**



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**Morning** Relaxing walk and explore the beautiful gardens of Taihu (太湖)  
One of the largest lakes in China, while here we will explore the amazing gardens that surround the lake. We will also learn about the ongoing struggle to combat pollution and how the Chinese government has been involved since the 1980s to reduce the lake's pollution. This lake in particular is a major food source and water source for about 30 million Chinese citizens in the area!

**Afternoon** Visit to local Tea Mountain  
After lunch students we will visit a local tea mountain in the Huzhou area. Tea, basically leaves steeped in water, come in many variety and the taste and health benefits can vary greatly depending on the location and how they are processed. During our visit we will learn about the tea plants, their cultivation and processing and, of course, sample a handful of teas ourselves. Students will also learn about tea customs, etiquette and utensils.

Dinner in Huzhou

## TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018 (HUZHOU)

**Morning** Check-out of Hotel in Huzhou

Anji Bamboo Museum (安吉竹乡国家森林公园) and Bamboo Banquet!

Anji Bamboo Museum is the only museum related Bamboo in China and the country's largest bamboo nursery! A very famous Chinese film 卧虎藏龙 was shot here and during our visit we will learn about bamboo, a plant famously associated with China and pandas. Here there are more than 400 varieties of bamboo After, we will enjoy a "Bamboo banquet" for lunch where all the dishes we will eat will be made from bamboo!

**Late Afternoon** Fly from Hangzhou to Beijing  
*Exact flight schedule to be determined*

Check in to hotel in Beijing

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018 (BEIJING)

**Morning/Afternoon** Tiananmen Square (天安门广场) and Forbidden City (故宫博物院)  
*Two of the most famous spots in Beijing we will visit and explore Tiananmen Square - a contemporarily important location - and the Forbidden City - a historically important location and one of the world's most important palaces.*

**Afternoon** Tai Chi Class at the Sun Temple (日坛)



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*Tai chi or “taiji” (太极) is a form of Chinese martial arts known around the world for its health benefits and defense training. This afternoon we will learn a bit of tai chi from a local master and what better place to learn that near the Temple of the Sun? Located in the Chaoyang district of Beijing it is perhaps one of the most famous temples in Beijing and was built in 1530. This will also be a great time for a brief discussion about religion and faith in China and how value systems have been established over China’s long history.*

**Evening** Traditional Beijing Roast Duck Dinner

## THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018 (BEIJING)

**Morning** The Great Wall of China

*One of the Seven New Wonders of the World the Great Wall does not need much of an introduction. While construction on some portions of the wall are believed to have been constructed in the seventh century BCE, the majority of the wall were built during the Ming Dynasty. Together, we will hike a portion of the wall outside of Beijing - the view and experience is amazing - and learn more about the wall’s history, purpose and restoration/preservation efforts today.*

**Afternoon** Scavenger hunt in the traditional Beijing Hutongs near Hou Hai

*Our afternoon in the hutongs will bring us back centuries! Hutongs (胡同) are a type of narrow street typically found in the north of China and especially in Beijing. Unfortunately in recent years many traditional hutong neighborhoods have been demolished to make way for larger streets and modern housing developments. Luckily, the city of Beijing is working hard to preserve many Hutongs and we will hear about these preservation efforts too. We will explore the hutongs near Hou Hai (后海) or “rear lake” located in the northwest of Beijing - one of our favorite hutongs!*

**Evening** Chinese dumpling cooking class!

*Chinese cuisine is delicious and always a favorite conversation topic so today we will learn for ourselves the proper way to “bao” (包) or wrap dumplings and then enjoy the efforts of all our work with a delicious lunch!*

Relaxing foot massage after a long day of hiking and walking!

## FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018 (BEIJING)

**Morning** Shopping in Beijing Pearl Market (红桥市场)

*How good are you at bargaining? We’ll find out at the Beijing Pearl Market where you will have the opportunity to barter and purchase everything from Chinese souvenirs, knock-off designer goods and, as its name suggests, affordable and beautiful pearls!*



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**Afternoon** Beijing Opera Workshop

*Beijing Opera or Jīngjù (京剧) is a type of traditional Chinese Opera. It combines music, dance and (high pitch) vocals and is truly an impressive art form. During our workshop we will learn about this culturally important art form - particularly the masks that bring the characters to life. With our local expert, we will learn about the meaning of the masks, the importances of different colors and even have the opportunity to create our own!*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018 (BEIJING)**

**Morning** Check out of Hotel

*Activity TBD pending flight schedule*

**Afternoon** Fly from Beijing to Atlanta

*Exact flight schedule to be determined*

**SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018 (BEIJING TO ATLANTA)**

**Morning** Pickup at Atlanta Hartsfield Airport Baggage Claim at *time TBD*



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## Program Fee:

As an educational initiative we work tirelessly to keep programs affordable for students and their families. The per participant program fee for AIS' China Immersion program is \$2,350 + international airfare.

With our program fee there are no surprises – we promise. The program fee will not change and it includes just about everything (see below).

### Note on international airfare (ATLANTA-CHINA):

EdOdyssey works with just about every major airline and will negotiate the best possible group flight. We do not charge any fee for airfare booking. The cost of international airfare will be billed in addition to the Program Fee. Currently, we estimate round-trip airfare (Atlanta-Shanghai; Beijing-Atlanta) will be **\$900 - \$1,200 USD** per person.

## Program Fee Schedule:

Until November 3, 2017	Registration & Deposit (\$500)
January 19, 2018	Payment 1 (\$1,600)
February 16, 2018	Payment 2 (remaining program fee \$250 + international airfare)

## Program Fee Includes:

- All activities and site visits listed in the program itinerary including all meals
- Full-time EdOdyssey program leader
- 24-hour assistances from EdOdyssey's international and local teams
- Parent/Student Information Session (when program is announced to school)
- Parent/Student Pre-Departure Meeting (2-3 weeks before departure)
- International emergency medical insurance and travel insurance - *please see policy for full details*
- All domestic transportation (ground and national airfare)
- All tips for drivers, local guides, restaurant attendants, etc.
- High quality housing accommodations (*up to three (3) students per room, one (1) adult per room*)
- Personalized, dedicated webpage for students, families, and faculty leaders
- PRC visa fee and visa application assistance