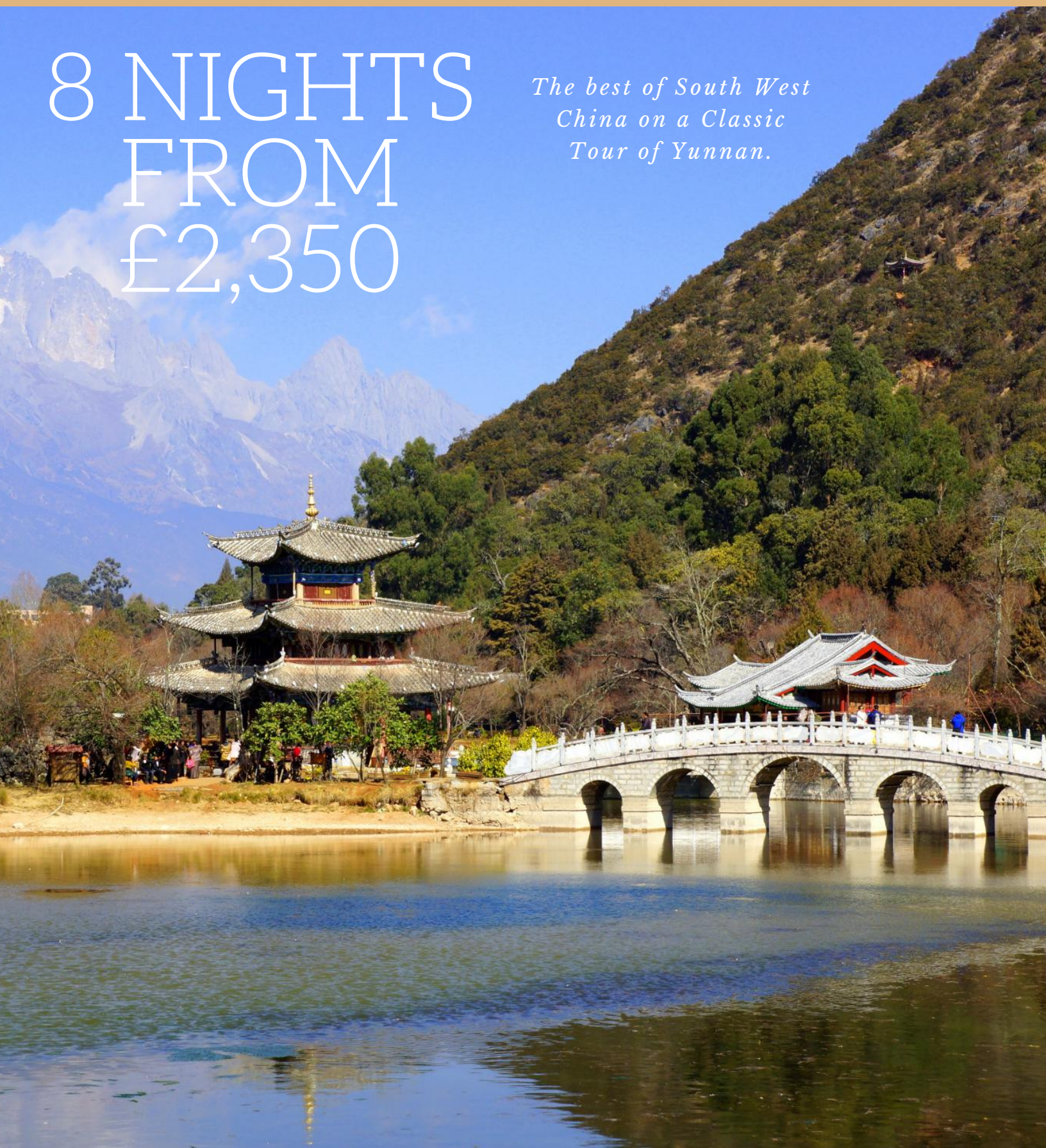


YUNNAN DISCOVERY

8 NIGHTS
FROM
£2,350

*The best of South West
China on a Classic
Tour of Yunnan.*



Yunnan in South West China is one of China's most spectacular regions, with unique local cultures, Buddhist Monasteries and magnificent mountain scenery making it very appealing to those looking for an adventurous trip into one of the most exciting regions in China.

This private Yunnan Discovery Tour is a well-paced trip offering a balanced and thorough insight into Yunnan, focusing on four destinations. As with all of our trips, this one can be tailored to suit your interests, timescale and budget so just let us know if you would like to alter things.



Yunnan Discovery

- Day 1: UK - Dali
- Day 2: Dali
- Day 3: Dali
- Day 4: Lijiang
- Day 5: Lijiang
- Day 6: Lijiang
- Day 7: Shangri-la
- Day 8: Shangri-la
- Day 9: Kunming
- Day 10: Kunming - UK
- Day 11: UK

YUNNAN DISCOVERY

Day 1: UK - Dali

Overnight flight from the UK to Dali.

Day 2: Dali

On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel for check in, with the rest of the day at leisure.

Dali is a wonderfully located town, set dramatically between Lake Erhai and the mountains.

The atmosphere is relaxed and Dali is a great place to dip your toes into Yunnan and begin your exploration of South West China.

Overnight: Dali

Meals: Breakfast included





Between Erhai Lake and the mountains, Dali still retains a fairly laid-back atmosphere with local Bai people going about their daily lives...

YUNNAN DISCOVERY



Day 3: Dali

Today visit The Three Pagodas, Erhai Lake and Dali Ancient Town.

The Three Pagodas are a highlight of a trip to Dali – the central one is over 1100 years old.

Visit Erhai Lake with its clear water and its reflections of land and sky.

In the afternoon visit old Dali with its historic sites, ancient buildings and temples.

The evening is free to explore Dali on your own. Your guide will be able to recommend some options for dining.

Overnight: Dali

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included



YUNNAN DISCOVERY

Day 4: Dali - Lijiang

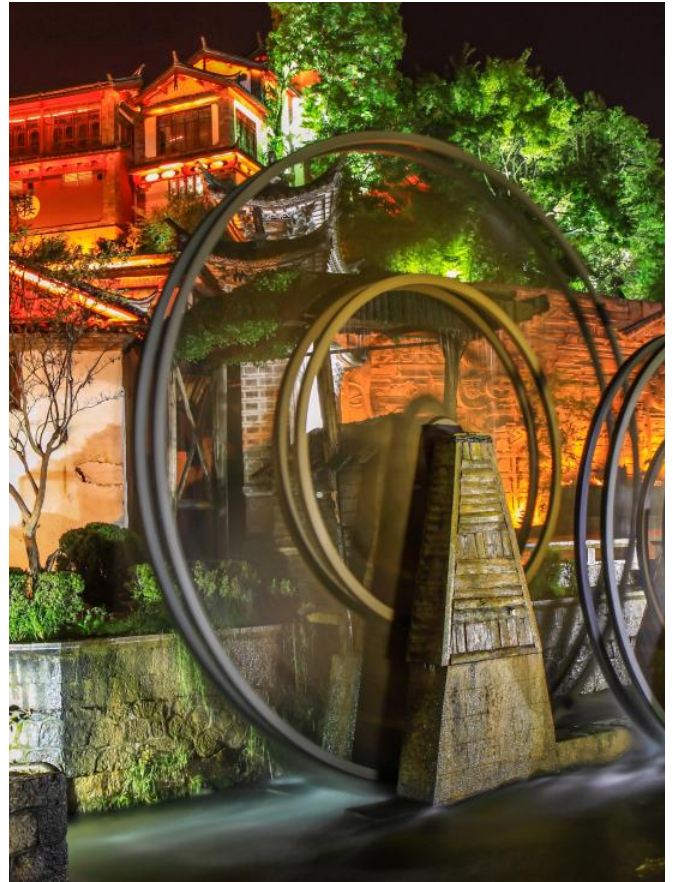
In the morning meet your guide and take a walk around the Xizhou Bai Minority village and local market, 18 km north of Dali.

From Dali transfer to Lijiang and visit Lijiang Old Town and Black Dragon Pond.

Lunch is included in a local restaurant.

Overnight: Lijiang

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included



YUNNAN DISCOVERY

Day 5: Lijiang

Enjoy a morning visit to the Yak Meadow of the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain with a cable car trip included.

This morning also includes a spectacular outdoor singing and dancing performance performed at 3,100 m above sea level with Jade Dragon Snow Mountain as the backdrop.

Enjoy a local lunch before visiting a Naxi minority village and its ancient wall paintings in the afternoon.

Baisha Village nestles beneath Jade Dragon Snow Mountain, 8 km from Lijiang Old Town.

The village is really atmospheric, with Naxi people hurrying with worn bamboo crates of vegetables, goods being carried on horseback along dusty paths and elderly Naxi villagers passing the time of day. It's a great spot for photographers.

Evening the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Lijiang

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included



Local people in Lijiang



The atmospheric old town of Lijiang consists of cobbled streets, ancient houses, the old market square and canals which criss-cross town. This is the perfect place for strolling (be careful on the cobblestones) and people watching...

YUNNAN DISCOVERY

Day 6: Lijiang

In the morning visit Zhiyun Temple and a nearby village.

Standing by the mirror-like Lashi Lake, Zhiyun Temple is one of the five famous temples in Lijiang, built during the Qing Dynasty.

The afternoon is free for your own explorations of Lijiang.

Your guide can assist with recommendations for things to do, places to see and dining suggestions.

Overnight: Lijiang

Meals: Breakfast included



YUNNAN DISCOVERY



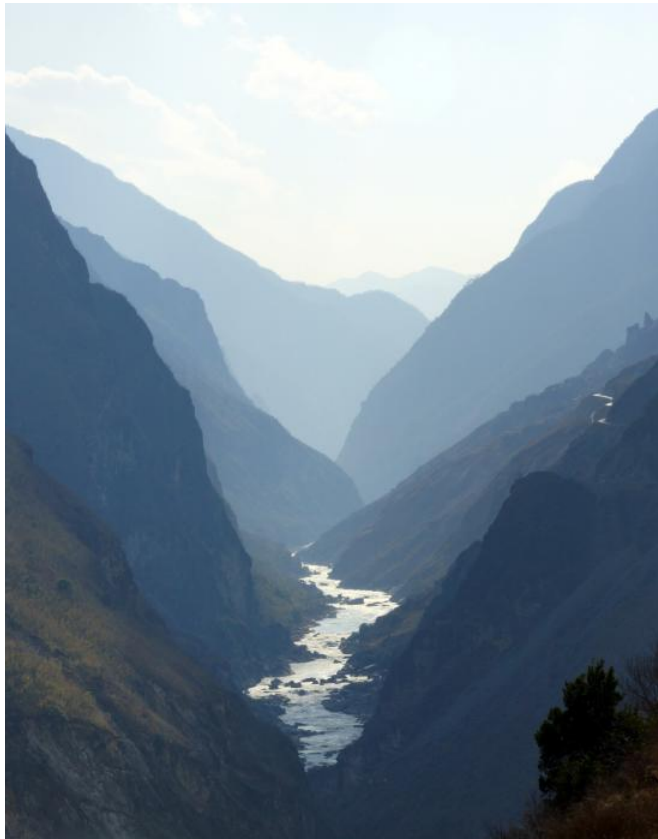
Day 7: Shangri-la

This morning visit Tiger Leaping Gorge and enjoy a short walk there.

Tiger Leaping Gorge is one of the deepest gorges on the planet, with spectacular scenery to rival anywhere in China.

The first 'Bay' of the Yangtze is located here, a stretch of the Yangtze which curves around a mountain and an area of some historical significance in China.

A packed lunch is included en-route to Shangri-la.



Formerly known as Zhongdian. Shangri-la (as it was officially renamed in 2001) swirls with the smell of wood and charcoal permeating its cold, dry air.

Here, ruddy-faced Tibetans stand out from the Han Chinese, as does their architecture: square, three-storey homes with bright scrollwork trimming them.

Tea is mixed with yak butter here for a high-calorie drink in this shivery climate. Enjoy the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Shangri-la

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included

YUNNAN DISCOVERY

Day 8: Shangri-la

Enjoy a morning visit to Gedan Songzanlin, the largest Tibetan Buddhist temple in Yunnan.

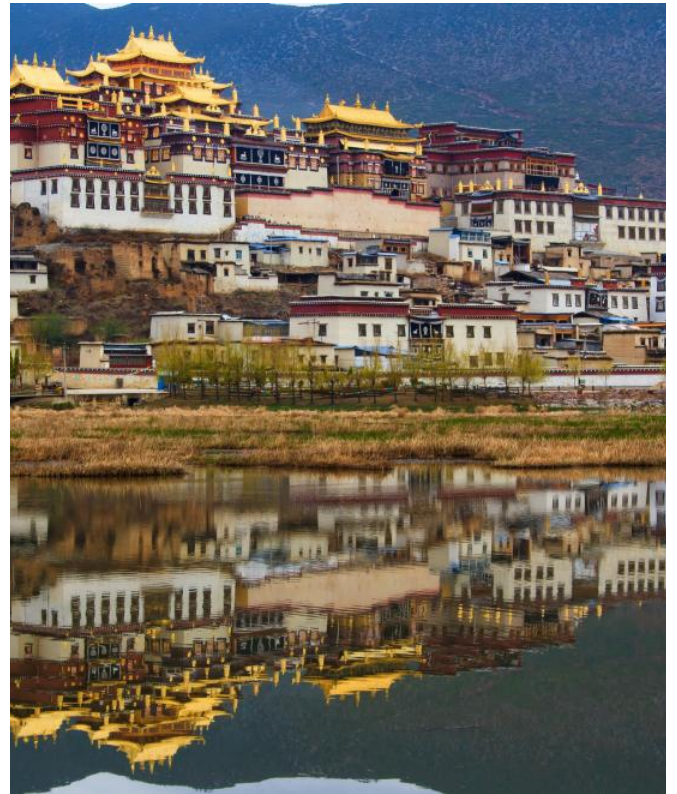
Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and explore the old town in the afternoon, with a visit to a local family.

Gedan Songzanlin is really the best-preserved Tibetan city in China.

Enjoy the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Shangri-la

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included





Kunming is Yunnan's largest city and an important hub in South West China. The city has an interesting old town and the nearby 'Stone Forest' is a popular excursion.

YUNNAN DISCOVERY



Day 9: Kunming

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Kunming, the third largest city in South-west China, and the political, cultural, economic and transportation centre of Yunnan.

On arrival meet your guide and visit Kunming's Stone Forest and the local flower market in Kunming.

Enjoy the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Kunming

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch included



Day 10: Kunming - UK

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK.

Day 11: UK

Arrive back in the UK.

Discover South West China

Travelling to Yunnan

Yunnan is one of China's most spectacular regions, with unique local cultures, Buddhist Monasteries and magnificent mountain scenery.

This Yunnan Discovery tour begins in the north of Yunnan, in the old town of Dali. Visit the Three Pagodas, Erhai Lake and Dali Ancient Town.

See a Xizhou Bai Minority village before heading to the charming old town of Lijiang to explore the Old Town and the famous Black Dragon Pond.

In Lijiang enjoy a morning visit to the Yak Meadow of the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain with a cable car trip included before discovering Naxi culture in a Naxi minority village.

From Lijiang head to Shangri-la via Tiger Leaping Gorge, one of the deepest gorges on the planet, with spectacular scenery to rival anywhere in China.

In Shangri-la ruddy-faced Tibetans stand out from the Han Chinese, as does their architecture.

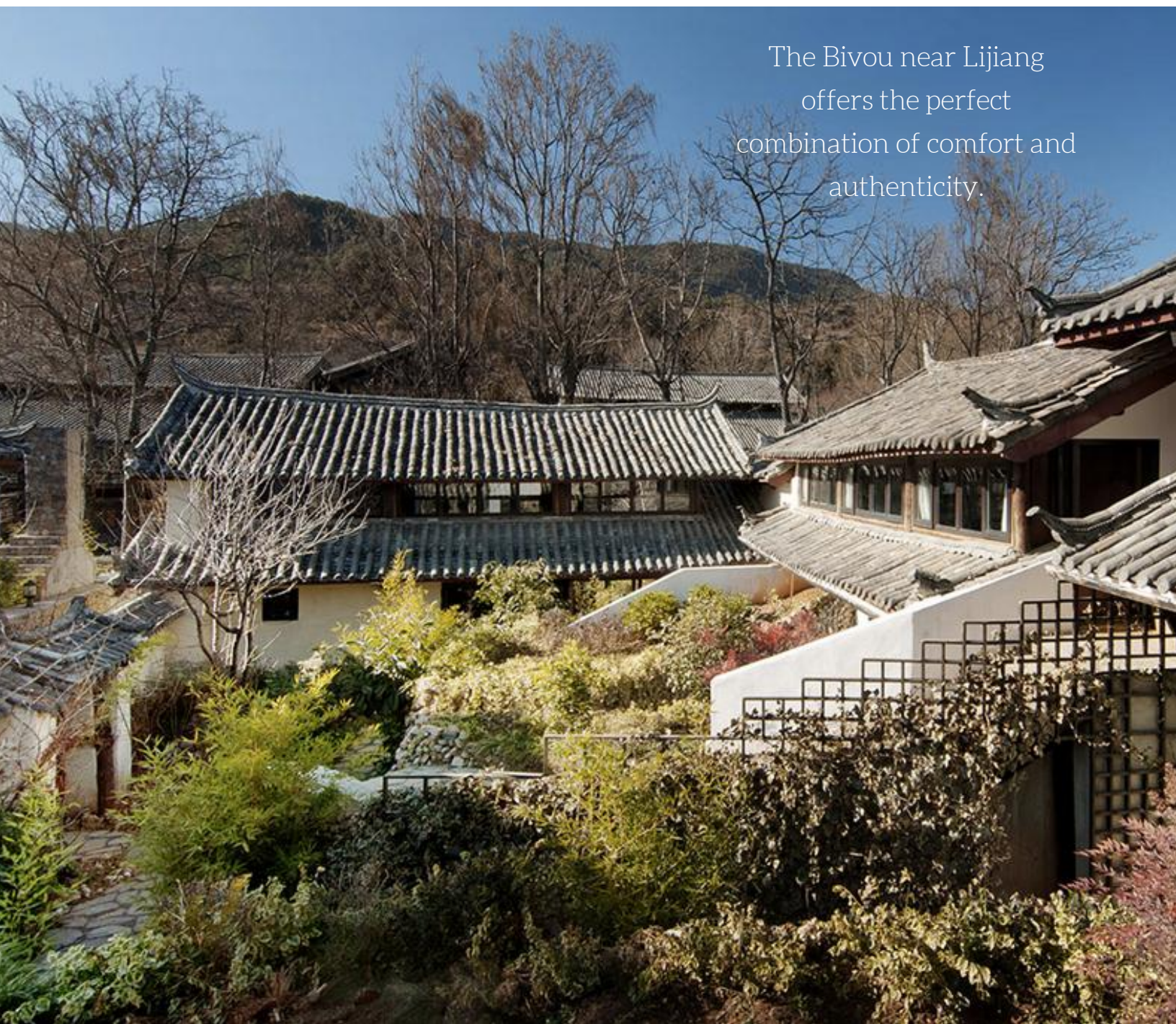
Visit Gedan Songzanlin, the largest Tibetan Buddhist temple in Yunnan before finishing the trip in the spectacular Stone Forest near Kunming.

This Yunnan Discovery tour can easily be added on to further explorations in China or as an add on to a tour of Thailand or Indochina.

Accommodation in Yunnan ranges from the luxurious to the very rustic, with plenty in between. Although China is dominated by larger hotels catering to big groups, we try to suggest more authentic, boutique style hotels in most of our itineraries but the choice of accommodation for your trip can be totally guided by you.

For something very luxurious, stay in the Banyan Tree Ringha between Lijiang and Shangri-la. For simpler but equally characterful accommodation there are some great options including the Silver Chest Boutique Hotel in Kunming and the Sky Valley Heritage Hotel in Dali.

The Bivou near Lijiang offers the perfect combination of comfort and authenticity.



The dry season between June and November is generally a very good time of year to visit Yunnan with warmer temperatures prevalent. December to May can see some rain and lower temperatures, although it is still relatively mild. Kunming is known as the City of Eternal Spring because of the year-round temperate climate.

A visa is required for all UK passport holders travelling to China. These can be obtained easily and in a few days from the Chinese Visa Service Centre in London via post or in person - we can assist by providing details.



EXTEND YOUR TRIP



SEE GIANT PANDAS

ADD ON CHENGDU

2 nights from
£345 pp

Chengdu is probably most well-known for the Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding Centre which offers an amazing chance to see these endangered animals up close and learn about efforts to keep the species alive.

Chengdu is also famous for its tea-houses, always alive with the sound of Mahjong table. 'Mala' is the flavour of Chengdu – meaning 'tingly-hot' – reflecting the pepper and chili, which form the base of Sichuan cuisine.

Discover the best of Chengdu including a visit to the Giant Panda Breeding Centre on this 3 day Yunnan Discovery extension.

EXTEND YOUR TRIP



ADD ON LAOS

ADD ON LUANG PRABANG

3 nights from
£415 pp

Luang Prabang is a World Heritage designated town and without doubt the highlight of any trip to Laos.

Laid-back and charming, Luang Prabang is a town of temples and monasteries where the pre-dawn alms round procession of monks brings out a steady stream of on-lookers.

The gold-clad temples, French style cafes and great local shops frequently detain those who only planned on staying a night or two.

Adding on a few nights in Luang Prabang is a superb option to go with a tour of Yunnan. Why not extend further and cruise up the Mekong for 2 days and on to Chiang Mai in Thailand?

DATES & PRICES

Travel Dates Guide Price

Call us Today

0333 7000 747

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Jul - Aug: from £2,495 pp

9 until 6 Mon-Sat

Please contact us for confirmed prices as prices are all subject to change, dates and availability. Remember that all of our China Holidays can be tailored to suit your interests and dates.

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