

# 2015 Virtuoso Symposium

## Post Symposium Familiarization Offer

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Tour Operator: WildChina

Tour Name: Chengdu: Into the Heart of Sichuan

Start Date: 29 April 2015

End Date: 2 May 2015



Leshan Giant Buddha



Giant Panda

This petite Sichuan tour packs a punch, showcasing all of the region's highlights in **under 72 hours** – perfect for clients who are traveling through Asia and want to fit in a visa-free taste of China.

Explore southwest Sichuan, home to sacred peaks, spicy peppers and China's natural treasure: the giant panda. You'll view these unique creatures in a natural setting, find enlightenment in the Taoist temples of Mount Qingcheng, savor a spicy hotpot feast, witness the spectacle of Sichuan opera, and relax in the elegance of the newly opened **Temple House Chengdu**.

*\*\*Meals provided are indicated as Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) and Dinner (D)*

### Day 1: Wed 29 April

Chengdu (D)  
The Temple House Chengdu

Your journey begins in Chengdu, the provincial capital of Sichuan. Start off your day in the lively alleyways of Kuanzhaixiangzi. Literally translated to “broad narrow alleys”, it is a lively, historic section of Chengdu that is lined with stalls of knickknacks and hole-in-the-wall restaurants with mouth-watering aromas. If you feel adventurous, try eating local Chengdu street snacks!

In the evening, we will celebrate your first night in the “Kingdom of Spice” with a **hotpot** dinner of local spicy flavors. Then, spend the rest of the evening watching **Sichuanese opera** for an introduction to local folklore and witness Sichuan's one-of-a-kind “changing face” opera style.

### Day 2: Thu 30 April

Chengdu (B, L, D)  
The Temple House Chengdu

On day 2, you will visit **Qingyang Taoist Temple**, the birthplace of Lao Zi, the founder of Taoism, where you will explore the Daoist principles of Yin and Yang. Then, experience everyday local life at Chengdu **People's Park**, the center of Chengdu's city life, where you can observe an array of interesting activities from children fishing for koi to retired men and women dancing to classic Chinese tunes with an outdated speaker. Take part in local life yourself with a mahjong lesson in an outdoor teahouse.

After, visit the looming **Leshan Giant Buddha**, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Stand at the feet of the colossal Maitreya Buddha, a slumbering giant who has held the title of world's largest stone Buddha for over a thousand years

**Day 3: Fri 1 May**

**Chengdu (B, L)  
The Temple House Chengdu**

Drive to the UNESCO World Heritage site of **Qingcheng Mountain**. Here you can choose to take an easy bike ride through picturesque countryside to **Dujiangyan Panda Research** Center where you can see pandas in their natural habitat. Enjoy lunch at the newly opened **Six Senses Qingcheng Hotel** and experience Qingcheng's unique, long-spouted gongfu tea. After lunch, take the cable car or hike up to the summit of Qingcheng Mountain. If you're feeling adventurous, you can hike through forested staircases and hidden temples on the way down. This evening you will have free time to enjoy sights and smells of Chengdu at your leisure.

**Day 4: Fri 2 May**

**Chengdu (B)  
The Temple House Chengdu**

We start the day with a morning visit to **Wenshu Monastery**, an exquisite architectural site and one of the most active Buddhist centers in China, dates back to the Tang Dynasty (618-917). If time permits, browse the surrounding shops, sample the local flavors as you explore the city on foot, or enjoy the facilities of The Temple House Chengdu.

Transfer to the airport for flights out of Chengdu; end of journey.

**Rates:**

\$500USD per person – land cost based on double occupancy

**What's Included:**

- All land costs (as indicated in the itinerary.)
- All accommodations, based on double-occupancy, as indicated in the itinerary.
- All admission fees and activity expenses, as noted in the itinerary.
- All meals, as noted in the itinerary, and drinking water.

**What's not Included:**

- International flights and relevant taxes from your Start and End cities (HK round trip economy can be purchased at \$875USD)
- Chinese tourist visa – but this won't be needed for this tour as it fits within the 72 hour visa-free period!
- Meals not included in the itinerary and alcohol.

**To Reserve:**

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