

## 2009 Trade & Tourism Mission to China Final Questions

1. *What airline is being used from Los Angeles to China?*

Air China

2. *What kind of meals will be served on the airline?*

Usually rice/noodles with chicken/pork/beef. Also dumplings, rolls and salad are served.

Beverages include orange juice, coke, sprite, water, beer, etc.

3. *Should we bring some of our own food?*

Bringing granola bars, snack mix, etc. to munch on is a great idea.

4. *Can we make seating requests on the airline?*

Seating requests can be made at the Air China check-in counter.

5. *Are there restrictions aboard the Airline (personal devices allowed that will work)?*

Cellular phones may be turned on only when the main cabin door is open. Pagers may be used to receive messages at any time.

Devices that may be used only when announced by the flight attendants and the aircraft is above 10,000 feet in altitude:

- Electronic games
- Personal computers
- Entertainment players
- Recorders (audio and/or video, such as tape/CD/MiniDisc/MP3 players and camcorders)
- Calculators
- Shavers
- Cameras
- Aircraft power ports for laptops.

Devices that are NOT permitted for use at any time:

- Battery operated personal air-purifying device
- TVs
- Radio receivers and/or transmitters (including AM/FM/SW, CB and scanners) remote-control toys

6. *How many suitcases may we take and what is the weight limit per case?*

2 pieces are allowed for check-in by each passenger. Total dimensions of the 2 pieces must not exceed 273cm (107") with no 1 piece exceeding 158cm (62"). Each piece must weigh no more than 43 kg or 50 lbs. remember to leave room for souvenirs. You may also take one carry on no larger than 55cm (21 inches) in length, 40cm (15 inches) in width and 20cm (7 inches) in height. This carry on must not weight more than 5 kilograms or 11 pounds. Remember: Liquids, aerosols and gels must be in containers three ounces or less. Items must be put in a one quart, clear plastic zip-top bag. Only one zip-top bag per passenger. For more information about baggage allowances, please visit:

<http://www.airchina.com.cn/PassengerService/GroundService/BaggageLimitation/default.shtml>

7. *Are there different luggage requirements for the flight from Beijing to Shanghai?*

No.

8. *Do we have access to a schedule of event by time for each day?*

Yes we do. See Itinerary at

<http://www.ChamberEast.com/ChamberEast/PDF/China2009FinalItinerary.pdf>

9. *How do we schedule / pay for the optional tours?*

Optional tours are available on this trip – you will be able to decide which trips to take and you must pay in cash.

10. *Are there going to be laundry facilities in our hotels?*

Yes, a few hotels offer laundry facilities.

11. *If we are planning to donate clothing, how do we do this?*

There is no formal donation program for this trip. Please leave donation items at home.

12. *Where will the group meet in LA?*

The group will be meeting in the Tom Bradley International Terminal in front of the Air China check-in counter (March 17, 2009). Please look for the sign to be held by Group Leader, Shauna Denos, indicating the 2009 Trade & Tourism Mission to China. Please check-in with Shauna upon your arrival.

13. *Is American Express accepted in China?*

Visa is the most widely accepted credit card in China. However, Visa, MasterCard and American Express are widely accepted in major city hotels, shopping centers, retailers, large restaurants and supermarkets. Discover Card is rarely accepted.

ATM and debit cards should serve you well, though you'll want to keep an eye on exchange rates and service fees.

A good idea would be to purchase a pre-loaded credit card (not attached to your bank account) with a few hundred dollars for spending money.

14. *What would be a good amount of cash to take with us?*

Since the \$25 tip and optional tour fees are only accepted in cash, bring a minimum of \$225 per person (if planning to go on all of the optional tours). If planning to purchase souvenirs on the street and in the local Chinese market, please bring plenty of small bills. One hundred \$1 bills would be ideal—this also makes price negotiation much easier. Please do not place cash in check-in luggage as Air China will not be held liable and will only compensate for lost luggage according to lost baggage policies.

15. *Can we pay with large bills?*

Large bills are accepted in China. Because of negotiation in the market place, it is recommended to carry a variety of denominations—especially \$1 bills. Vendors generally don't like to give change.

16. *Are travelers checks accepted in China?*

Travelers checks are accepted in China and may be cashed in at major banks like the Bank of China or at the money-exchange counter at the hotels. Chinese currency can also be purchased at the money-exchange counter at the hotel.

17. *What is the average temperature in China while there?*

The average temperature in Beijing is 30-53°F. The average temperature in Shanghai is 41-54°F.

18. *May we take bottled water in our suitcases?*

Bottled water is allowed in your check-in luggage. However, because there is bottled water sold in many of the places visited on this trip (as well as the bus), don't bring too much. Generally the price for bottled water in China is 2/\$1.00.

19. *How do we make sure we are in the same group as other family members/friends?*

When applications were initially received, it was noted who should be in the same group in reference to whom they were traveling with. Please reference "Bus Assignments" to verify all family members/friends are in the group desired.

20. *Do the hotels have hair dryers?*

Yes.

21. *Should we be prepared in bringing slippers?*

The hotels we stay in are 4 and 5 star—so the floors are impeccably clean. However, considering the time of year, the floors may be a little cold.

22. *Should we be prepared to bring our own toilet paper?*

Bringing your own toilet paper is a great idea. The little travel tissue packets are ideal. However, because hotel rooms are adequately stocked, you may choose to stock up before departure to daily activities. Public restrooms may or may not have toilet paper and rarely have soap. Be prepared with plenty of hand sanitizer.

23. *I have family who live in China. Would they be able to join us for a tour? If so, how much would that be per person?*

No individual or group may join in the trip activities. Only full-paid passengers are allowed.

24. *Can I bring lollipops/pencils to give to children in China?*

Yes.

25. *What type of attire should I prepare to bring? Are jeans okay?*

Because of the time of year, it is important to dress in layers. Bring sweaters/sweatshirts and a nice warm jacket. Because of our very casual environment, jeans and comfortable walking shoes are a great way to go.

26. *What do I need to get my electric razor/curling iron to work in China?*

China uses 220V or 50Hz (versus 120V or 60Hz used in the United States). Please purchase an appropriate converter (prior to departure at Best Buy, Radio Shack, etc.) in order to use electric items in China.

27. *Can we qualify for Sky Miles from our flight to/from China?*

Because this Trade & Tourism Mission is provided at a substantial discount, flights to/from China are not redeemable for Sky Miles.

For more details about travel in China please visit this link:

<http://www.ChamberEast.com/ChamberEast/ChinaTrip2009.htm>

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