Dear CU Alumni and Friends,

China, land of legends, architectural wonder, and diverse landscapes, is a country with one of the world’s oldest civilizations. Over the centuries, it has produced cultural masterpieces that have fascinated the world.

This comprehensive CU educational journey is based on 14 nights in 5-star accommodations, and presents excellent travel values.

Please reserve your accommodations, includes all meals and sightseeing, and presents an excellent travel value.

Travel Insurance

This program was sold out in 2012 and was a huge success! Space is limited, so please reserve early.

If for any reason a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision or portion of this Agreement to be unenforceable, that provision will continue in full force and effect. If either party commences any action or proceeding against the other party to enforce or to interpret any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled (i) to recover all expenses and attorneys’ fees (including all related costs and expenses) incurred by such prevailing party in connection with such enforcement or interpretation; (ii) to recover all expenses, including reasonable attorneys’ fees (including all related costs and expenses) incurred by the prevailing party in connection with the defense of any action or proceeding against it to enforce or to interpret this Agreement; and (iii) to recover all expenses, including reasonable attorneys’ fees (including all related costs and expenses) incurred by the prevailing party in connection with any action or proceeding against it for breach of this Agreement.

This agreement shall be governed by Illinois law without application of its conflict of laws principals, any controversy or claim relating this Agreement shall be settled solely and exclusively in Lake County or Cook County, Illinois. If for any reason a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision or portion of this Agreement to be unenforceable, that provision will continue in full force and effect. If either party commences any action or proceeding against the other party to enforce or to interpret any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled (i) to recover all expenses and attorneys’ fees (including all related costs and expenses) incurred by such prevailing party in connection with such enforcement or interpretation; (ii) to recover all expenses, including reasonable attorneys’ fees (including all related costs and expenses) incurred by the prevailing party in connection with the defense of any action or proceeding against it to enforce or to interpret this Agreement; and (iii) to recover all expenses, including reasonable attorneys’ fees (including all related costs and expenses) incurred by the prevailing party in connection with any action or proceeding against it for breach of this Agreement.

BCT and CU reserve the right to take photo, video, media report, etc. during the tour for its own promotion use.

CU have the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a tour member should such person be a threat to the health and safety of other participants or to the operation of the tour. The determination of the travel operator is final, without any right of appeal. The travel operator reserves the right to remove a participant from the tour at any time for the best interests of safety, health or general conduct and without returning any monies paid. The tour operator reserves the right to take action to enforce or to interpret any provision of this Agreement.

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Day-to-Day Itinerary

Sept. 2, 2013, Los Angeles/Beijing
Take Air China non-stop flight to Beijing. The flight takes approximately 12 hours and is on wide body Boeing 747.

Sept. 3-5, Beijing
Beijing, the 800-year-old ancient capital of China, is the ebullient heart of the Middle Kingdom. With 16 million residents, it is the living epitome of China’s past, present and everything in between. Ritz Carlton Hotel, 3 nights

Sept. 3: Arrive in Beijing. Meet the guide and transfer to hotel. Dinner provided. D

Sept. 4: Visit Beijing Old Town and the historic landmark Tian-An-Men Square. Visit the Forbidden City, a magnificent palace built between 1406 and 1421, where 24 emperors lived and ruled China for 500 years. Welcome Dinner: Beijing Roast Duck B/L/D

Sept. 5: Climb the Great Wall, the only visible human construction from the moon. Built in 600 B.C., it stretched over 6,000 miles. Take a Rickshaw Hutong Tour in Beijing Old Town. Continue to visit the Summer Palace in the afternoon. B/L/D

Sept. 6-8, Tibet
Lhasa, capital of Tibet, is the home of 6 million Tibetan Buddhists. The unique spiritual civilization emphasizes the majestic and unerringly beauty of the land. InterContinental Hotel, 3 nights.

Sept. 6: Fly to Lhasa. Rest at hotel to adjust for high altitude. B (Lunch not included)

Sept. 7: Visit Tibet Museum and the Norbulingka – “the summer palace of Dalai Lama” followed by an afternoon tour to the Jokhang Temple, built 1,300 years ago to commemorate the marriage of the Chinese Princess Wenqiang to the Tibetan King Songbum Gyampo. Later in the day, tour the Barkhor Market and visit a Tibetan family. B/L/D

Sept. 8: Explore one of the world’s architectural wonders – the Potala Palace. The immense palace is twenty stories high with over 1,000 rooms including the Dalai Lama’s residence, tombs and numerous prayer halls. Watch Tibetan monks chant prayers at the Sera Monastery. Tibetan Dinner & Dance B/L/D

Sept. 9-10, Chengdu
Chengdu, known as the “Land of giant panda and famous Sichuan food, is the capital of China’s most populated Sichuan Province. Le Jiantang Hotel, 2 nights

Sept. 9: Fly to Chengdu. Free in the afternoon. B (Lunch not included)

Sept. 10: Explore Giant Panda Breeding Center. City tour to Flower & Bird Market and ecological “Live Water Park” (environmental awarded). Sichuan Dinner B/L/D

Sept. 11-12, Xian
Xian, the ancient capital of 21 dynasties from the 1st Chinese Emperor to the most prosperous Tang Dynasty in the 9th century, where the legendary Silk Road originated. Shaanxi Hotel, 2 nights

Sept. 11: Arrive in Xian. Visit the Wild Goose Pagoda, the Ancient Ramparts of Xian and see Xian Dust in the afternoon. B/L/D

Sept. 12: Explore one of the most stunning archaeological discoveries in the 20th century – the Terracotta Warriors. This legendary, life-size terracotta army was created to protect the tomb of Qin Shi Huang, the 1st emperor of China who conquered 7 rival kingdoms and unified China as one nation in 221 B.C. Visit the Great Mosque (founded in 742). Tang Dynasty Music & Dance B/L/D

Sept. 13-14, Guilin
Guilin, best known for its spectacular limestone karst formations, formed millions of years ago and snaked over the ages by the elements, has been the inspiration for generations of Chinese painters and poets. Sheraton Hotel, 2 nights

Sept. 13: Fly to Guilin. Visit the Reed Flute Cave, Fish Hill, the Elephant Trunk Hill and the Solitary Beauty Peak. B/L/D

Sept. 14: Cruise on the Li River from Guilin to Yangshuo. The picturesque Li River winds its way through the panoramic, crazy hills, rice paddies, sugar loaves and beautiful limestone rock formations. The cruise ends with an exploration of the small and charming market town of Yangshuo. B/L/D

Sept. 15-16, Shanghai
With 18 million residents, Shanghai is now the engine and showcase of tremendous economic development in modern China. Set against a 100-year old European colonial architecture in the Bund, the avant-garde Shanghai is a fascinating people, exotic architecture and breathtaking landscape.

Sept. 15: City tour in Guilin before flying to Shanghai. B/L/D

Sept. 16: Stroll along the beautiful waterfront Bund and through Old Town. Later, walking through twisted alleys, narrow streets and tiny shops, we find ourselves in front of the extraordinary Yu Garden, built in 1577. Explore the Shanghai Museum for its magnificent collection of jade, bronze, China painting and calligraphy. Farewell Dinner in Old Town. Lu Bu Long Restaurant B/L/D

Sept. 17, Shanghai/Los Angeles
Transfer to airport for flight to Los Angeles. Arrive in LAX the same day (due to time difference). B

Included Features
- Round-trip flights from Los Angeles to China, economy class, all tax, fees, fuel surcharge, etc.
- All domestic flights within China, economy class, tax and fees included
- All listed (or similar class) luxury five-star hotel accommodations
- Daily western style breakfast buffet in hotels, all lunches and 12 dinners (B=breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner) Special gourmet dinners as listed
- Special exciting cultural performances as listed
- Entrance for sight-seeing
- Ground transportation within China
- Professional local English-speaking guide in each city
- Baggage transportation
- Tour director within China for group above 10

Not Included
- $200 for China Visa
- $40 for Tibet Travel Permit
- All personal expense such as excursions, baggage, travel insurance, passport, laundry, telephone, excess of meals and beverage, which are not included in the program
- Gratuities for tour director, local guides and drivers

China Connoisseur and Tibet

Highlights
- The Great Wall and the Forbidden City in Beijing
- The Terracotta Warriors in Xian, where the legendary Silk Road originated
- The Shanghai Museum referred to as the “New Louvre” by Forbes magazine for its world-class exhibits of bronze, jade and Ming Dynasty furniture
- The picturesque Li River in Guilin, which has inspired a whole school of Chinese painting
- The culmination of this tour is Tibet, best known for its exceptional culture, fascinating people, exotic architecture and breathtaking landscapes
- Cultural immersion: Beijing old town resident visit; afternoon yak butter tea with Tibetan family in Lhasa
- Special gourmet dinners and cultural performances
- Deluxe 5-star hotels throughout