



25th Anniversary Delegation / May 11-16, 2009

Sponsored by:
Seattle-Chongqing Sister City Association
Chongqing Municipal Government

Travel Information & Reservation Policies — For Cultural and General Delegates

DELEGATION SPONSOR:

The Seattle-Chongqing Sister City Association (SCSCA) is a nonprofit [501-(c)3] volunteer citizens organization chartered by the City of Seattle to conduct exchange programs with the Municipality of Chongqing. SCSCA has organized numerous business, civic, and cultural delegations, and tours to China over its 25-year history.

IN CHINA ARRANGEMENTS:

The Chongqing Municipal Foreign Affairs Office is handling hotel, transportation, and program arrangements for our delegation for the four-day visit to Chongqing. Participants have the flexibility to arrange their own independent travel in China prior to or following the Chongqing program. A few SCSCA members are planning to spend several days in Beijing, and perhaps Xi'an, following Chongqing. Participants who would might be interested in exploring extended travel with a small group should check the appropriate box on the reservation form.

FLIGHT OPTIONS:

SCSCA has arranged for discounted roundtrip Seattle-Beijing-Chongqing coach tickets through **Hainan Airlines** at \$1050 per person. Delegates who wish to purchase Hainan tickets will be given a reservation code to directly make reservations for their preferred travel dates. Seattle-Beijing and return Beijing-Seattle flights are on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Discounted tickets are good for any dates from May 1-30. It is not necessary to travel as a group to receive the discounted tickets. Participants also have the option to make independent reservations through any other airline and to make independent hotel reservations in Beijing.

Shangri-la Hotel, Beijing ~ Special discount available when purchasing tickets directly through Hainan Airlines.
RMB650 per night for superior single/double room with buffet breakfast
RMB850 per night (min. 2 nights) for superior single/double room, buffet breakfast at Cafe Noir; rate also includes transfer to airport on day of departure for Chongqing

All participants should plan to arrive in Chongqing NO LATER than early afternoon on Monday, May 11.

CHONGQING PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Program details are not yet finalized, but will likely follow this general schedule:

May 11	Arrive in Chongqing; Welcome and Celebration Banquet (evening)
May 12-15	City tours, business programs and site visits, cultural visits and performances Opening Ceremony of Chongqing China International Investment/Global Sourcing Fair
May 15-16	Day trip options: Dazu Stone Carvings World Heritage Site, Shi Lin Stone Forest (Participant interests will determine schedule for day trips.)
May 17	Depart Chongqing (earlier departure may be arranged).

CHONGQING COSTS:

The Chongqing costs include six nights in a well-situated, five-star western-style hotel with six buffet breakfasts at the hotel dining room. Five to six dinners and five lunches will be at restaurants or other venues. For arrival and departure days, lunch is on your own. The fees include all programs, group transportation by comfortable motor coach, tips (if appropriate), and the day trip(s) to the Dazu Stone Carvings or elsewhere.

Individual traveler:	\$670 per person
Shared hotel room:	\$430 per person

Business delegates wishing arrangements for one-on-one business meetings should check that box on the registration form. You will be contacted to discuss opportunities and associated additional costs.

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YOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Any items of a personal nature such as travel or baggage insurance, excess baggage charges, airport exit taxes, taxis or other independent transportation during open times on the schedule, items in the room refrigerators, meals independent of group activities or during open/free times, laundry, telephone calls, or any items not listed as included.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:

Passports must be valid for at least 6 months after your return date. Visa applications should be made 30 days before departure. The visa charge is not included in the tour cost. You may obtain your visa independently, through your own travel agent, or through group application with other members of the SCSCA delegation. Please check the appropriate box on the reservation form.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:

There are no health certificates or inoculations required to enter China at this time, though certain inoculations are advisable. A tour information packet will offer suggestions for health preparation. **For safety and for consideration of all tour participants, SCSCA does not recommend China travel for those with serious health problems that might require emergency care.** Please check with your physician or travel clinic nurse for any medical advice.

HEALTH & TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Please check with your medical insurance plan for coverage outside the U.S. SCSCA will not be liable for any claims over and beyond what is covered by the international and China air carriers and China domestic travel agencies and suppliers. **Travel Insurance that includes a trip cancellation/interruption provision is highly recommended** and is available for purchase directly from reliable companies. Check with your travel agent. Information also will be included in a packet of information to registrants.

CLIMATE:

The weather in Chongqing in May should be pleasant — warmer and drier than Seattle at this time of year.

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS:

The delegation will stay at a four- or five-star western-style hotel in central Chongqing. Most prospective tour participants will have visited China previously and have high expectations of eating good food. Chongqing is famed for its excellent Sichuan-style cuisine. Western-style hotels usually provide breakfast buffets with both western and Chinese food. During any open time on the itinerary, you may choose your time and place to eat. You can even find a Starbucks café in Chongqing.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION:

Comfortable, air-conditioned motor coaches driven by professional drivers will take us on city tours and to Dazu, approximately a two-hour drive from Chongqing.

DEPOSITS:

A deposit of \$100 per person by check (payable to SCSCA) is required by April 17 to ensure your reservation. Please see the separate reservation information for details on reservation/payment deadlines and cancellation policies.

PAYMENTS:

The remaining balance for the Chongqing portion must be paid to SCSCA by April 28. Sorry, but we are not able to accept payment by credit card.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS:

Chongqing Program: SCSCA must receive all cancellations in writing (see the separate registration information). If cancelling by April 28, Chongqing costs will be refunded minus a \$25 per person service fee. See the separate reservation information for more details on cancellation policy, deadlines, and refunds/fees. Unused services (hotel, meals, etc.) during the Chongqing portion are nonrefundable.

International and Chinese airlines policies will prevail for all flights. **Trip cancellation insurance is recommended to cover unforeseen situations that might require you to cancel**

RESPONSIBILITIES (The legal caveats):

The Seattle-Chongqing Sister City Association (SCSCA) acts only as an information provider regarding Chinese suppliers and the International or domestic air carriers and assumes no responsibility or liability for any injury, loss, damage, or accident resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, strikes, government regulations, thefts, failure of any means, discrepancies or changes over which SCSCA has no control. Reasonable changes in the itinerary may be made when necessary for your comfort and safety. The passenger contract issued by the carriers concerned shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of tours or passenger. SCSCA shall not be responsible for any delays, substitutions of equipment or employees, and the participant hereby waives any claim arising there from. The right of the client is reserved to claims against the international and/or Chinese air carrier(s) and China domestic tour agencies. The final scheduling of program and tour arrangements are detailed for participants upon your arrival in Chongqing. Any sightseeing not included in the tour that that may incur some additional cost must be paid by the participants. Sightseeing scheduled but not used may not be refunded or exchanged for any other activity. The tour arrangers will not be held liable for any deviation from the schedule due to conditions beyond the control of the program organizers.

