

Beachwood Chamber of Commerce, Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE), Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce, Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP), Greater Medina Chamber of Commerce, Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network (MAGNET)

Citslinc International

Trip to China
April 2010

Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest in joining Northeast Ohio Chambers of Commerce and Citslinc International, Inc. on the trip to China in April 2010. Citslinc International's business trip to China in the fall of 2008 provided an outstanding experience to over 10,000 business people with their families and friends. We are pleased that you are considering being a part of our trip in 2010! On our trip you will visit memorable sites, both ancient and modern, and enjoy a multitude of unforgettable experiences. You will also learn a great deal about how the Chinese business system operates. We feel that this tour is an exceptional value, so please do not wait too long to decide whether to accompany us, as space is limited and reservations are on a first come first served basis. Please find below a list of FAQ's that may assist you in your consideration of joining us on our trip to China.

Q 1: What is the cost to attend the trip?

A: The cost to participate in the trip is \$1,999 per person for Chamber members and their guests (based on double occupancy), and includes your round-trip airfare from JFK Airport (**please note that you are responsible for getting to and from JFK Airport**), 5-star or 4-star hotel accommodation, deluxe tour bus, a knowledgeable English-speaking tour guide in each city, three full meals every day, fees for all attractions and any applicable taxes.

The cost to participate in the trip is \$2,199 per person for non-Chamber members (based on double occupancy), and includes your round-trip airfare from JFK Airport (**please note that you are responsible for getting to and from JFK Airport**), 5-star or 4-star hotel accommodation, deluxe tour bus, a knowledgeable English-speaking tour guide in each city, three full meals every day, fees for all attractions and any applicable taxes.

Q 2: What if I will be travelling alone on the trip?

A: If you are travelling alone, the cost for a single room (single occupancy) is an additional \$450, in addition to the cost as a Chamber or non-Chamber member (noted above in question #1). If you are interested in being matched with a potential roommate, let us know. We will keep a list of those interested and work to facilitate some introductions after which you can decide if you would want to select someone as a roommate.

Q 3: Do I have the option to upgrade to business class on the flight?

A: Yes. An upgrade to business class on the round trip international flight is \$6,000.

Q 4: When are the due dates for payments to attend the trip?

A: A non-refundable registration fee of \$200 per person is required and due at the time you register for the trip. This will be deducted from your total tour fare. This deposit will hold your space to attend the trip.

The balance for the trip is due in full by December 1, 2009.

Q 5: Do I need to obtain a passport and visa for the trip?

A: Yes. Securing or updating a passport is your responsibility, and you may also take care of the required visa yourself. However, if you wish for us to handle the visa application, you will need to provide us with your passport, a

signed visa application form, two passport photos and \$145 before January 1, 2010. We will return your passport to you in 10 working days. Should you need assistance completing the visa application, please ask us.

Q 6: What if I decide to cancel my reservation to participate in the trip?

A: If you cancel your reservation post- January 1, 2010, you will be issued a partial refund, equaling your full payment for the trip less \$700.

If you cancel your reservation prior to January 1, 2010, you will receive a refund of your fees less the \$200 non-refundable deposit fee.

Q 7: What kind of agenda can I expect for this trip?

A: The trip to China consists of both a leisure and business agenda. There is currently a primarily leisure itinerary developed for the trip (please visit www.neochambers.org), and a business visit itinerary is being developed as an alternative that will visit the same cities on the same schedule, but substitute some business oriented events. More details on the business itinerary will be available at the orientation sessions (please see question #8). **Please note that this trip is not a trade mission. Our business itinerary will be designed to familiarize you with business practices, the business environment and the business experience of companies working in China.**

Q 8: Where can I go to find out more information about the trip to China?

A: Pre-tour briefings for all participants will be held at four locations across Northeast Ohio, at which time we will answer all of your questions and familiarize you with details you will need to know. This is a great opportunity for registered travelers or those interested in making the trip to get their questions answered. You may visit www.neochambers.org to register for one of the following sessions:

- **July 7th, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
 - Lorain County Community College (LCCC) Midpoint Campus
 - 50 Pearl Road, Brunswick, OH 44212

- **August 31st, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
 - Lorain County Community College (LCCC) Midpoint Campus
 - 50 Pearl Road, Brunswick, OH 44212

- **September 1st, 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
 - Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center
 - 13000 Triskett Road, Cleveland, OH 44111

- **September 1st, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
 - Embassy Suites – Beachwood
 - 3775 Park East Drive, Beachwood, OH 44122

Final Itinerary:

You will be provided with a final itinerary with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of the hotels, flight information, etc. approximately 1 month before we leave. This may vary slightly from the brochure. Be sure to leave a copy with someone at home and always carry a copy with you on the trip.

The Plane/Flight

All flights are regular, scheduled passenger flights. Seats are assigned at check-in at JFK. We will also check in as individuals, not as a group. The plane has 4 aisle seats and 2 window seats in each row. You should arrive early enough to get good seat assignments. You will be served 2 meals and there will be 3 movies. You will receive your airline tickets before departure date.

Luggage

Do not know weight restrictions or how many bags yet.

Hotels

Hotels are 4 and 5 star (can compete with Hilton or Sheraton). All of the hotels have Western facilities and include hair dryers and internet service. If you bring electrical appliances or gadgets that will need charging, it is recommended that you bring electrical adapters. Although the hotels have them, you don't want to take a chance that they won't have enough for everyone. If you need a converter or adapter for wall sockets you can get one at Radio Shack. Unless otherwise notified, all rooms will be booked as non-smoking.

Changing Hotels

The night before we leave each hotel you may be asked to leave your luggage outside the door and a porter will pick them up and make sure they are loaded and ready to leave before the passengers arrive. Other days you may need to carry them to the bus.

Meals

Breakfast will be a Western and Eastern buffet at the hotel. Breakfast will be your only opportunity for Western food. Eat a hearty breakfast and take fruit like apples, oranges, etc. with you from breakfast to snack on during the day. Lunch and dinner will consist of Chinese food. Lunch and dinner are family style at local Chinese restaurants. Soft drinks and beer are served. The beer is very good quality. Chinese liquor is very strong. The wine is poor quality, but you can find American wine.

McDonald's, KFC, Starbucks, etc. are available if you crave American food.

You can ask for forks at any restaurant we go to. You may also want to pack some plastic forks and keep one with you at all times.

Water

Water is fine to wash with. It is not recommended that you drink any tap water unless you boil it (you can boil the water with the coffee pot located in your hotel room). One bottle of water per person is made available daily in your hotel room. Bottled water is available at the hotel or can be purchased on the bus or from local vendors. Bus drivers make a small profit by selling water during your tours. The price for the bottled water is typically 2 for \$1.00.

Daily Schedule

We will wake up at 6:00am, eat breakfast at 7:00am, leave the hotel at 8:00am for the day's tours and return after 8:00pm. If you wish to leave the group (or not join the group for the day), let your bus tour guide know.

Bus Travel

You will be assigned the same bus for the entire trip. Each bus will have 25-30 passengers. Your seat on the bus will be "yours" for the day. You can leave personal items on the bus for the day but take valuables with you. There are no bathrooms located on the bus, but they make adequate stops along the way.

Business Conference/Agenda

We are still developing the content for the business agenda.

Optional Tours

Optional tours will be available for an additional charge. The tour guides will describe them to you and if interested, you will pay the guides in cash (US dollars).

Weather

The average high in Beijing is 75° – 80°, with low rainfall, abundant sunshine, and heat at comfortable levels. In Shanghai, the average high is 70°.

Shopping

We will be visiting many stores and factories, but don't feel obligated to buy. If you purchase from a street vendor be prepared to barter; do not pay the initial asking price. Many stores are able to ship purchases home for you.

Tipping

Tips are not included in the trip fee. Total tips are \$25 for the whole trip. This will be collected in US dollars - CASH at the Great Wall. If you receive special services, an additional tip is not necessary, but OK if you wish.

Passport & Chinese Visa

If you do not have a passport, now, please go ahead and take care of that. You can get the forms at the post office, your travel agent, AAA. You will need to get a passport photo and there is a cost. Need to obtain information/details regarding these items. Make sure your passport will be valid through April, 2010. A Visa is only good for 6 months so do not start your visa process until December.

Shots/Vaccinations

Special shots or vaccinations are not required to enter or travel in China. Check with your personal physician regarding your situation. If you have not had a tetanus shot in the past 10 years, you might want to get one.

Restroom Facilities

Always take advantage of a restroom (especially a Western-style one). Some toilets are only holes in the floor (i.e. toilets are flat on the ground).

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is available. We can give you a brochure or you can go with any company you choose.

Money/Currency

Most stores will accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express. Discover Card is not generally accepted. You can exchange American dollars and traveler's checks at the hotel, banks, and airport, although US dollars are welcome almost everywhere. If you take cash, take small denominations. Street vendors do not like to give change. It is suggested that you bring \$500 in cash, plus an additional \$75 in ones. Street vendors only know \$1 bills. ATMs are scarce and not reliable. Tip: Contact your credit card company to notify them you will be using your charge card in China.

Cell phones

Your cell phone may work in China. Check with your provider.

Additional Travel

If you want to leave the group during the tour, please notify your bus tour guide. If you want to do additional traveling after the tour, check with your own travel agent. It is possible, but you will be responsible for all additional costs and arrangements.

Suggested Websites

Weather: www.weather.com

What you can and cannot bring on the airplane (US Transportation Security Administration): www.tsa.gov/travelers
International Travel (US State Department): www.travel.state.gov

Questions about bringing items back from your trip (US Customs & Border Protection): www.cbp.gov