



China Visit 2008 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who/what is Citslinc?

Citslinc International, Inc. was established in June 1995 and operates out of Monterey Park, Calif. Leo Liu is the president of Citslinc. Mr. Liu has been coordinating tours to China for more than 15 years and has partnered with Chambers of Commerce since 2001. Each year more than 6,000 tourists visit China on Chamber tours such as this one.

Do I need to be a Rochester Business Alliance member to go on the trip?

No, everyone is welcome to join us on this exciting adventure.

When do I need to commit?

You must pay for the trip in full by June 15. A refundable \$200 deposit will hold your spot until that date. Written cancellations for refunds on that deposit will be accepted until August 15.

May I pay the Rochester Business Alliance by credit card?

Yes, we accept VISA and MasterCard.

How many others will be on this trip?

We are planning on blocks of 150 to 200 travelers. The individual groups will be sized at 25-30 and it is likely the only time you will see the others in your block will be in the evening.

I am interested in investigating business opportunities in China. Will there be a chance to do that on this trip?

Yes, there will be one evening reception during which you can meet with business people in China. If you are interested, fill out the "Business Questionnaire" and the reception will be arranged by Citslinc at no cost.

What travel documents will I need?

You will need a passport and a visa. Visas can be arranged through the Rochester Business Alliance. Visas are issued for a six-month window and your passport must be valid for the full period. Example: if your visa is issued on August 15th, 2008, your passport must be valid through February 15th, 2009. The fee to process a visa is \$175.

Do I need travel insurance?

Both travel and trip insurance are recommended and can be arranged by your local travel agent.

Do I need any vaccinations?

There are no vaccination requirements at this time, but travelers should check with their physicians or the Centers for Disease Control Web site at www.cdc.gov/travel/vaccinat.htm to learn of any recommended vaccinations or up-dated health-related news.

What is China's weather like in October? What should I pack?

The weather is very much like it is here, 45 degree nights, 65 degrees during the daytime in Beijing. It is typically 10 degrees warmer in the Shanghai area. Dress is "casual" and comfortable for touring, but you may want to pack business attire if you plan to attend the business functions. Pack light and plan on shopping later during the trip, especially in Shanghai.

What are the limitations on luggage? How many pieces and how much weight is allowed?

Each person is allowed two pieces of checked baggage, with a combined maximum weight of 70 lbs. However, no single piece can be heavier than 50 lbs. Each passenger also may have two pieces of carry-on luggage, which must fit in the overhead bin or under a seat. Valuables, breakable items, travel documents and medications must be in your carry-on luggage. **Please note:** China requires all checked baggage must be locked.

What about airport security?

The best information can be found at www.tsa.gov. Follow the prohibited/allowed link and you will find all the information as to what you may take on board an aircraft.

How much money should I plan on taking?

How much you spend on those "I gotta have it" items is, of course, up to you. But in general, you should plan on \$200 to \$400 per person for miscellaneous/personal items.

Will I be able to use credit cards in China?

You will find very few ATM machines, but traveler's checks and credit cards are accepted everywhere. Leave your checkbooks and debit cards behind.

What are the guidelines on tipping?

The bus captain will collect about \$25 from each traveler on the first day for the combined services of the tour guide, the bus driver and all hotel personnel. Unless you request special services, you should not expect to tip anyone else.

Will I have the opportunity to travel outside of the tour group?

No, you may not leave the tour to travel or sightsee on your own except during designated free time during portions of certain days. You will be advised when those times are scheduled.

There are also optional trips available at an additional cost, and we can provide information on those.

How can you do this for the price?

Several things are in play to keep the costs reasonable. First is the volume; Citisline is able to achieve discounts from the airline and hotels due to the large number of travelers they brings to China. Second, it is the "off season" in China and the hotels/busses would be otherwise unutilized. Third, China will have just hosted the 2008 Olympics. Many of the hotels in which you will be staying have been constructed just for this event.

How do I learn more?

The Rochester Business Alliance will conduct two informational meetings: March 6 and May 14, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Contact Michele.Hefferon@RBAAlliance.com to register.