

# 9 Days Chongqing Tour: Dazu, Wulong, City Highlights In-depth Tour

## Trip overview

Embark on the ultimate 9-day journey through Southwestern China's most dramatic mountain metropolis and surrounding UNESCO World Heritage sites. This in-depth itinerary blends Chongqing's futuristic urban landscape—famous for sky-high monorails passing through residential buildings, glowing riverfronts, and multi-layered skyline roads—with breathtaking natural and historical wonders across the regional countryside.

Beyond the vibrant urban center, travel east into the majestic world of the **Wulong Karst National Geological Park**, where you will descend into giant sinkholes (*tiankengs*), walk beneath colossal limestone arches at the **Three Natural Bridges**, and hike along the subterranean waterfalls of **Longshuixia Gap**. Marvel at the million-year-old speleothem formations inside **Furong Cave** and journey west to admire the thousand-year-old Buddhist stone sculptures at the **Dazu Rock Carvings**. Complete with private chauffeured transfers, expert local guides, and authentic culinary encounters, this comprehensive 9-day tour showcases the unforgettable culture, scenery, and soul of Chongqing.

- **Durations:** 9 Days
- **Destinations:** Chongqing - Dazu(Chongqing) - Wulong(Chongqing) - Chongqing
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://www.asiachinatour.com/9-days-chongqing-in-depth-tour/>

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Welcome to the Mountain City — Arrival in Chongqing & Evening Culinary Awakening

Touched down in China's dynamic "Mountain City," where towering modern skyscrapers cling to steep river bluffs above the Yangtze and Jialing rivers. Upon your arrival at Chongqing Jiangbei International Airport (CKG) or Chongqing High-Speed Train Station, your personal guide and private chauffeur will greet you warmly at the exit, assist with your luggage, and escort you in comfort to your downtown hotel for check-in.

Spend the remainder of your afternoon and evening exploring the lively multi-layered streets surrounding your hotel at your own relaxed pace. As dusk falls, watch Chongqing transform into a futuristic neon metropolis while the famous spicy aroma of authentic Sichuan pepper and chili broth fills the night air. Indulge in an authentic welcome dinner at a local hot pot restaurant, immersing your senses in the numbing, fragrant, and fiery culinary heritage that makes Chongqing the recognized Hot Pot Capital of China.

**Meals:** On your own

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

**Expert Journey Insights:**

*Chongqing's unique 3D topography means that what appears to be the ground floor on one street might actually be the 10th floor of a building on another. Navigating around your downtown hotel on foot is straightforward, though carrying offline digital map applications or asking your guide for a bilingual hotel address card is highly recommended before stepping out for evening walks. If you decide to sample authentic Chongqing hot pot tonight, local restaurants offer split pots with mild, non-spicy bone broth alongside the traditional spicy beef tallow broth.*

## **Day 2: City Landmarks, Migrant Heritage & Cyberpunk Nightscapes — Jiefangbei, Huguang Guild Hall, Hongya Cave & Qiansimen Bridge**

Begin your exploration in the vibrant heart of Chongqing at **Jiefangbei (Liberation Monument)**, an iconic 27.5-meter tower erected in 1940 that stands as a historic symbol of resilience. Stroll through the bustling central business district to nearby **Bayi Food Street**, a renowned culinary haven where you can sample local street snacks such as hot and sour glass noodles, crispy fried pork, and sweet glutinous rice balls, with plenty of mild, non-spicy options available.

In the afternoon, travel to the yellow-walled **Huguang Guild Hall**, an 18th-century architectural complex built by historic migrants from southern China. Tour its serene courtyards, Yuzhou Academy, and intricate wood carvings depicting classical legends before enjoying an optional traditional Sichuan Opera performance featuring face-changing and long-spout teapot arts inside Qi'an Guild Hall. As evening approaches, visit the famous **Hongya Cave**, a multi-tiered cliffside complex built in traditional stilted *Diaojiolou* architecture. Watch the structure light up in brilliant golden illumination above the Jialing River, then walk across to the opposite riverside park for unforgettable nighttime views of Hongya Cave paired with the glowing red **Qiansimen Bridge**.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

**Expert Journey Insights:**

*Today involves considerable walking across multi-level city terrain, including stone steps and staircases inside Huguang Guild Hall and Hongya Cave. Wearing comfortable walking shoes with good traction is essential for navigating Chongqing's sloped streetscapes. Hongya Cave is most striking when its multi-tiered architectural lights turn on around dusk, drawing large evening crowds. Your guide will assist in navigating the best elevated vantage points and cross-river park locations to take clear photographs of the illuminated stilted buildings and Qiansimen Bridge away from the main pedestrian congestion.*

## **Day 3: Traditional Alleyways to Confluence Wonders — Shibati Steps, Three Gorges Heritage & Chaotianmen Plaza**

Uncover the living history and cultural soul of Chongqing this morning at **Shibati (Eighteen Steps)**, a restored 12th-century district that offers an authentic glimpse into old mountain city life. Walk along preserved stone stairways lined with traditional stilted wooden houses (*Diaojiolou*), craft shops, and teahouses, experiencing the ladder-street culture that shaped historic Chongqing.

In the afternoon, explore the vast galleries of the **Three Gorges Museum**, home to more than 280,000 cultural artifacts detailing the Yangtze River's natural history, ancient Bayu civilization, and Chongqing's modern urban evolution. Outside the museum, pause at People's Square to admire the magnificent dome of the **Great Hall of the People (The People's Assembly Hall)**. Conclude your day at **Chaotianmen**, the ancient city gate dock where the green waters of the Jialing River merge with the muddy brown Yangtze beneath the iconic sail-shaped towers of Raffles City Chongqing.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

**Expert Journey Insights:**

*Morning walking through Shibati includes navigating historic stone staircases, making supportive footwear essential for comfort. Inside the Three Gorges Museum, luggage storage and elevators ensure a smooth multi-floor visiting experience. When visiting Chaotianmen Square, walking out toward the riverfront dock provides the clearest viewing position to observe the distinct color boundary where the Jialing and Yangtze rivers converge.*

## Day 4: Giant Pandas, River Cableway Glides & Treaty Port Heritage — Chongqing Zoo, South Bank Old Streets & Changjiahui Night View

Delights await this morning at the **Chongqing Zoo**, one of China's premier giant panda conservation centers. Spend a delightful morning watching over 20 resident pandas play, climb, and munch on fresh bamboo shoots, including famous panda family groups sharing meals together in open garden enclosures.

In the afternoon, glide across the surging river aboard the historic **Yangtze River Cableway**, Chongqing's iconic "air bus" connecting Yuzhong Peninsula to the South Bank. Step off to explore **Xiahaoli and Longmenhao Old Streets**, multi-tiered hillside districts where 19th-century treaty port history comes alive through preserved European-style foreign firms, consular residences, and East-meets-West brick architecture. Conclude your day at the **Changjiahui Viewing Platform** along Nanbin Road, taking in sweeping nighttime vistas of Yuzhong Peninsula and the illuminated skyline across the river confluence.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

**Expert Journey Insights:**

*Arriving at Chongqing Zoo early in the morning aligns with the pandas' daily feeding time, offering the best opportunity to see them active before they rest during warmer afternoon hours. The Yangtze River Cableway is a popular urban attraction; your guide will coordinate boarding passes to ensure minimal wait time at the station terminal. Exploring Xiahaoli and Longmenhao Old Streets involves walking along multi-tiered stone pathways and steps along the river bluffs, so wearing supportive walking shoes is recommended for evening sightseeing.*

## Day 5: UNESCO Cliff Grottoes & Sacred Buddhist Art — Excursion to Baodingshan at Dazu Rock Carvings

Journey west this morning through scenic countryside to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Dazu Rock Carvings, an extraordinary repository of Chinese cave temple art dating from the Tang and Song dynasties. Arrive at Baodingshan, a horseshoe-shaped cliff site sculpted in the 12th and 13th centuries, where elaborate Buddhist, Confucian, and Taoist iconography coexists in remarkable harmony.

Guided along a 500-meter carved cliff gallery, marvel at the newly restored Thousand-Hand Guanyin, featuring 1,007 gilded hands radiating compassion. Stand before the monumental Reclining Buddha entering Nirvana and inspect the intricate Wheel of Reincarnation, which depicts karmic cycles alongside pastoral scenes of daily Song Dynasty life. After exploring these rock reliefs and the nearby Shengshou Temple complex, relax on your comfortable private return drive to downtown Chongqing.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

### Expert Journey Insights:

*The round-trip drive between downtown Chongqing and Dazu takes approximately 1.5 to 2 hours each way via modern highways. Exploring Baodingshan involves walking along paved cliffside walkways and gently sloped paths, making comfortable walking shoes ideal for the tour. The cliff galleries are covered by natural rock overhangs and protective shelters, allowing for comfortable sightseeing and photo opportunities in all weather conditions.*

## Day 6: UNESCO Karst Wonders & Cinematic Canyons — Excursion to Wulong Three Natural Bridges & Longshuixia Gap

Traverse the mountainous landscapes east of Chongqing this morning to reach the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Wulong Karst National Geological Park. Descend into the canyon floor via a high-speed glass sightseeing elevator to explore the **Three Natural Bridges**—Tianlong, Qinglong, and Heilong—the largest natural limestone arch bridge cluster in Asia. Walk along serene valley trails past the ancient **Tianfu Official Post**, a historic Tang Dynasty courtyard station nestled beneath towering vertical cliffs.

In the afternoon, take a short transfer to **Longshuixia Gap**, a narrow karst gorge featuring subterranean rivers, mist-veiled waterfalls, and moss-covered rock walls. Hike along suspended cliffside plank roads winding through this primordial canyon. Later, check into your hotel in Xiannvshan Town, with the option to attend the outdoor **Impression Wulong Show**, directed by Zhang Yimou, celebrating regional boatmen traditions and Yangtze River folk songs set against illuminated canyon walls.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

### Expert Journey Insights:

*The scenic drive from downtown Chongqing to Wulong takes approximately 2.5 hours each way over modern highway routes. Both the Three Natural Bridges and Longshuixia Gap involve extensive walking along stone steps and cliffside boardwalks that can be damp, making sturdy, non-slip walking shoes essential. The temperature inside the mountain gorges is consistently*

cooler than in urban Chongqing, so carrying a lightweight waterproof jacket or windbreaker ensures comfort throughout the day.

## Day 7: Subterranean Palaces & Scenic Aerial Rides — Furong Cave Exploration & Return to Chongqing

Venture to the banks of the Furong River this morning for a 1-hour scenic drive to **Furong Cave**, a massive subterranean karst system formed over 1.2 million years ago and designated as part of the UNESCO Wulong Karst World Natural Heritage site. Board a 10-minute aerial cable car that glides up the lush mountain ridge, offering breathtaking views of the surrounding river gorge as you approach the cave entrance.

Step inside a 2,700-meter paved cavern trail to witness over 70 types of rare speleothem formations, including towering stalagmites, delicate aragonite stone flowers, and a colossal 15-meter-wide stone waterfall. Marvel at the "Five Wonders" of Furong Cave before concluding your cave walkthrough. After a hot local lunch, relax aboard your comfortable private transport as you are escorted back to your downtown Chongqing hotel for an evening at leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

### Expert Journey Insights:

*The interior of Furong Cave maintains a constant cool and humid temperature of around 16°C (61°F) year-round, so bringing a lightweight jacket or sweater is recommended for comfort. The paved interior walking path includes several stair sections and damp stone surfaces; wearing sturdy walking shoes with non-slip soles will ensure safe and comfortable navigation. Mobile phone reception is naturally limited inside the deep cavern chambers, making it an ideal time to fully focus on photographing the illuminated geological formations.*

## Day 8: Historic River Ports & Urban Innovation — Private Excursion to Old Towns, Sky Monorails & Design Parks

Discover Chongqing's cultural evolution alongside your private guide and chauffeur. Begin with a guided stroll through the historic courtyard alleys of **Ciqikou** visiting teahouses and traditional craft shops tucked along the Jialing River bank.

Enjoy a seamless private transfer to **Liziba Station** for prime photo opportunities of the train-through-building architectural wonder. Afterwards, relax in the peaceful garden pavilions of **Eling Park** before exploring the trendy design studios and boutique cafes inside **Erchang Culture and Creative Park**. Enjoy an optional private masterclass led by local artisans in traditional paper-and-bamboo fish lantern crafting or metalwork rubbings before returning in comfort to your hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Chongqing

### VIP Operator Insights:

*Private chauffeured transfers make navigating Chongqing's steep hillside neighborhoods between Liziba and the hilltop of Eling Park smooth and effort-free. For guests interested in experiential arts, your guide can coordinate private arrangements for traditional Chinese crafts inside Eling Testbed 2, including bamboo weaving and velvet flower making, or provide details on witnessing*

the traditional Tongliang Fire Dragon performances.

## Day 9: Farewell Chongqing — Private Airport or High-Speed Railway Transfer & Onward Departure

Savor your final breakfast in the mountain city as your memorable 9-day Chongqing adventure comes to a comfortable close. At the appointed time, your private guide and chauffeur will meet you in your hotel lobby to assist with checkout and luggage.

Enjoy a smooth and stress-free private transfer directly to Chongqing Jiangbei International Airport (CKG) or Chongqing West/North Railway Station for your flight or high-speed train to your next destination. Reflect on nine unforgettable days filled with ancient cliff carvings, karst canyons, giant pandas, and dazzling illuminated riverfronts.

**Meals:** Breakfast

### Expert Journey Insights:

*Departure transfers are scheduled precisely based on your flight or train departure times, ensuring you arrive at the airport terminal three hours prior to international flights or two hours prior to domestic flights and high-speed rail departures. Your local guide will assist with flight check-in and luggage handling at the terminal departures hall before wishing you a safe journey ahead.*

## Booking Policy

### Cancellation Policy

#### Cancellation by Customer

- Cancellation received before 60 days: FREE of charge
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 20% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 40% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 70% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 7 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

### Children Policy

The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults.

- For infant (<04 years old): Free of Charge
- 04 - 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate
- 04 - 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- Above 11 years old with extra bed: 100% adult rate

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