China & Hong Kong
Chinese Australian Hometown Heritage Tour
hosted by Sophie Couchman and Kate Bagnall
14 January – 24 January 2018 | 11 days
Your tour hosts

Dr Kate Bagnall is a Canberra-based historian who specialises in Chinese migration and settlement in Australia before 1940. She has a PhD from the University of Sydney and is currently an ARC DECRA Research Fellow at the University of Wollongong. Kate has visited Guangdong about a dozen times, living in Zhuhai in 1997 and Guangzhou in 2000.

Dr Sophie Couchman is a curator and historian. She is an Honorary Research Fellow at La Trobe University and an Honorary Research Associate at Museums Victoria. Sophie has been active in the field of Chinese Australian history for many years, including as Curator at the Chinese Museum in Melbourne, and has travelled widely in China, living in Wuxi and Shanghai in 2002 and Nanjing in 2013.

What to expect

Experience the heritage of Chinese Australian Hometowns and share in your tour hosts Kate and Sophie’s informed commentary, extensive research experience and love of travelling in China.

“We will be travelling in the Chinese countryside, so this trip is best enjoyed with a good level of health and fitness. We spend much of each day walking and standing while sightseeing. You will also need to walk on uneven ground and irregular paving, climb stairs, and handle your own luggage.

“The highlight of the tour for me was meeting locals who either welcomed us into their homes, generously offered us food or shared their art/music. Cangdong village and visiting diaolous was special.” Terry, VIC

Destinations

Hong Kong
Jiangmen (Kongmoon)
Kaiping (Hoiping)
Taishan (Toishan, Sunning)
Xinhui (Sunwui)
Zhongshan (Chungshan, Shekki)
Zhuhai

Highlights

Explore the history and heritage of Chinese Australian home villages
Meet Dr Selia Tan in Cangdong village, a conservation and development project in Kaiping
Marvel at the UNESCO World Heritage-listed diaolou watchtowers in Kaiping
Experience traditional Cantonese food, culture and architecture
Venture off the tourist track for a unique taste of life in southern China
Your experience begins here...

Day 1: Sun, 14 January 2018 | Arrive Hong Kong

No activities are planned for today and you are welcome to fly in at any time.

Two nights in Hong Kong.

Day 2: Mon, 15 January 2018 | Hong Kong | BL

This morning tour hosts Sophie Couchman and Kate Bagnall welcome you with a traditional Hong Kong yum cha breakfast. After breakfast Sophie leads a Chinese Australian heritage walking tour to Happy Valley Cemetery. This afternoon and evening are free for you to enjoy the sights of Hong Kong at your leisure.

Day 3: Tues, 16 January 2018 | Hong Kong – Jiangmen | BLD

After breakfast travel by ferry to the river port city of Jiangmen (3 hours), our first stop in mainland China. Jiangmen, or Kong Moon as it was known, is the historical heart of the Sze Yup district. After lunch visit the bilingual Wuyi Overseas Chinese Museum for an introduction to the history of overseas migration from this fascinating region, before a dinner of local specialities.

Overnight in Jiangmen.

Day 4: Wed, 17 January 2018 | Jiangmen – Kaiping | BLD

Today visit Cangdong village in Kaiping to learn about village culture and heritage with architectural historian Dr Selia Tan and her team from the Cangdong Heritage Education Centre. We will spend the whole day in Cangdong, viewing local conservation efforts, including the rebuilt village temple and restored ancestral halls, and sharing a homestyle lunch prepared by Cangdong locals.

Two nights in Kaiping.

Day 5: Thurs, 18 January 2018 | Kaiping | BL

This morning explore the famous Kaiping diaolou (watchtowers) in beautiful Zili village. Zili is listed on the UNESCO World Heritage register and features nine separate diaolou. After a countryside lunch return to Cangdong for an afternoon of local Sze Yup cultural activities. Tonight enjoy dinner and evening shopping at your leisure in Kaiping city.

Day 6: Fri, 19 January 2018 | Kaiping – Taishan | BLD

After breakfast we visit the riverside town of Chikan, which features hundreds of historic shophouses. This afternoon explore Australian villages and the market town in Yueshan, where you can indulge in egg tarts and other treats in a unique afternoon tea experience. Travel south to Taishan, the ‘No. 1 Hometown of Overseas Chinese’, in time for dinner.

Two nights in Taishan.

Day 7: Sat, 20 January 2018 | Taishan | BL

Spend this morning visiting historical sites in the south of Taishan county, including the home village of Sydney tea merchant Quong Tart and the remarkable Mei Family Compound, best known today as the set of the 2010 action comedy film, Let the Bullets Fly. After lunch join an optional walking tour of the old town of Taicheng or spend the afternoon at leisure.

Day 8: Sun, 21 January 2018 | Taishan–Xinhui–Zhongshan | BLD

Guangdong is the home of dim sum, so today we start with a yum cha breakfast in Taishan before heading to Xinhui. In Xinhui visit Shiquli, a small village whose connections to Australia stretch back 150 years, the Xinhui Confucian Temple and the Overseas Chinese Cemetery. In the late afternoon travel to Zhongshan, where we enjoy dinner at a famed local restaurant.

Day 9: Mon, 22 January 2018 | Zhongshan | BD

This morning visit Zhuxiuyuan, the home village of the Kwok family of the Wing On Co. of Sydney, Hong Kong and Shanghai. Learn more about the “Big Four” Chinese Australian department stores at the Xiangshan Commercial Culture Museum, before spending the afternoon at leisure wandering along historic Sunwen West Road. This evening explore Sanxi village and enjoy a dinner with a historic twist.

Day 10: Tues, 23 January 2018 | Zhongshan – Zhuhai | BD

Experience the Museum of the Former Residence of Sun Yat-sen and the Zhongshan Folklore Culture Museum in Cuiheng, before lunch in the seaside town of Tangjiawan. Then visit the Meixi Royal Stone Archways or spend the afternoon at leisure in Zhuhai: shopping, walking by the sea or perhaps visiting the Zhuhai Museum. This evening celebrate our final night together with a farewell dinner overlooking the lights of the new Zhuhai Opera House.

Overnight in Zhuhai.

Day 11: Wed, 24 January 2018 | Zhuhai – Hong Kong | B

Early birds can join Kate Bagnall for an optional fishing culture walking tour, including the Xiangzhou port and local seafood market. Otherwise, after a leisurely breakfast transfer to Jiuzhou Wharf for our ferry to Hong Kong (1 hour), where the tour concludes.
$4858pp twin share
Single supplement: $1038 (subject to availability)

**Inclusions**

- 10 nights twin share accommodation with private facilities
- Land transportation
- Meals as specified in the itinerary
  (10 x Breakfast, 7 x Lunch, 6 x Dinner)
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as specified in the itinerary
- Tour hosting by Dr Kate Bagnall and Dr Sophie Couchman, assisted by local historical experts
- China single entry visa fee
  (Australian passport holders only)

**Exclusions**

- International airfares
- China visa fee (Non-Australian passport holders)
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses, laundry, beverages, and meals not specified in the itinerary
- Sightseeing not specified in the itinerary or undertaken during free time
- Airport transfers
- Any other items not mentioned above

**Booking Information**

**Booking your place** A minimum number of tour guests is required to confirm and guarantee this tour’s departure. Spaces are limited; book early to avoid disappointment.

All deposits and interim payments are non-refundable and no exemptions can be made for any tour guest who has paid a deposit and can no longer attend the tour. Progressive payments will be required for this tour.

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<th>Deposit</th>
<th>$500.00 per person upon booking your place on the tour</th>
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<td>Interim payment</td>
<td>$1,000.00 per person due within one week of the tour becoming a confirmed departure</td>
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<td>Final payment</td>
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*The tour price may change, subject to confirmation of all services. As the tour cost is based on the US dollar, a currency surcharge may be applicable if the US dollar exchange rate falls prior to final payment.

**Travel insurance** Travel insurance is required for all tour guests. We suggest taking out a comprehensive insurance policy on payment of your deposit to protect your non-refundable payments in the unlikely event of an unforeseen cancellation. Disinclination to travel is not covered by travel insurance. It is the responsibility of each tour guest to ensure that their travel insurance covers their personal requirements and any pre-existing medical conditions.

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