



Comfortable, modern facilities at the New Talent Academy

Village Camps invites youngsters to ancient China to experience the opportunity of a lifetime in a programme designed to give international campers a true taste of China and its amazing culture and exchange views and experiences with local Chinese campers.

Modern Facilities in an Ancient Land

Located in the prestigious Shunyi district of Beijing, the New Talent Academy is situated just 20 minutes from Beijing Capital International Airport in an area where many other international schools have their base. The magnificent and extensive garden-like campus offers brand-new accommodation, top quality dining and exceptional leisure and sports facilities. All around are beautiful avenues of trees, gardens and flower nurseries. The high quality accommodation is in 3-4 bedded rooms with en-suite facilities.

The China Experience Camp – A truly inspiring programme!

Ages 15-18

As its name suggests, the main objective of this programme is to give international campers a true experience and real appreciation of the culture and the people of China. Throughout the three weeks at camp there is a total immersion in Chinese culture covering the language, cooking, music, art, dancing and calligraphy with sessions in martial arts and tai chi amongst the most popular activities. The three-week stay allows time for a major excursion schedule with visits to many 'must-see' sites both in Beijing itself and other fascinating places of interest. The main highlight for most will be an overnight train journey to Xi'an for a visit to the hugely impressive Terracotta Warriors. And of course, campers enjoy, together with their newly made Chinese friends, a variety of sports and team-building activities.

Introduction to Chinese Language

The Chinese language serves as an important introduction to knowing more about the

rich culture of China and its people. While developing fluency in Chinese takes years, Village Camps has designed a programme to help campers learn basic vocabulary for use in daily life, encouraging many to consider learning this important language in future studies. Chinese classes take place on most mornings for about 90 minutes during this three week camp and all classes are taught by experienced native instructors in a fun, enjoyable way.

Chinese Culture Workshops

Many activities that help campers experience and enjoy Chinese culture are presented in workshops, including paper-cutting, traditional painting, kite-making and learning the art of preparing and cooking Dim Sum!

Campers also practice their Chinese calligraphy skills on the basic characters that they have learned in class or seen around Beijing and other places of interest visited as part of the excursion programme.

Chinese Teenagers at Camp

Together with international campers who travel to Beijing, the camp also hosts a group of Chinese teenagers of the same age range (15-18). The international campers and the Chinese campers are completely integrated into camp life but the Chinese group mirror the experiences of the international visitors, learning English and discovering more about the 'Western Culture' at separate workshops. A true cultural experience requires close interaction with the locals so this camp organises the international campers to live, work, play, learn and have fun together with their new Chinese friends. What an incredible opportunity!

Getting To China

Most campers will have the opportunity to join a group leaving together with a counsellor from London or Frankfurt making the travelling and the process of entering China easier. Campers can choose to travel independently to be met by Village Camps staff at Beijing airport. Tourist visas should be obtained as early as possible and Village Camps will provide advice and the supporting documentation to facilitate this process.



Dragon Boats at the Summer Palace



The world-famous Terracotta Warriors



Lions guard the entrance to the Forbidden City

Excursions

- ◆ Tiananmen Square – Located at the centre of Beijing City is the world-famous Tiananmen Square, where campers visit Tiananmen Tower, Monument to the People’s Heroes, Great Hall of the People, Mao Zedong Memorial Hall and watch the national flag raising ceremony. Every year, millions of people come to admire this impressive, grandiose Square, the place where many significant historical events have taken place.
- ◆ Forbidden City – Situated right in the heart of Beijing, the Forbidden City was home to 24 emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties. In ancient times, the emperors successively claimed to be the son of God and therefore supreme power was conferred upon them from the heaven. Their residence on earth was built as a replica of the Purple Palace where God lived in Heaven. Entry to such a divine place was certainly forbidden to the ordinary people which is why the city is so named.
- ◆ The Old Beijing Tour – A fascinating tour of the old city of Beijing with the bell tower, antique stores and market places. Campers will really enjoy a boat ride on the trendy Houhai Lake and a rickshaw ride in the ‘hutongs’, a Mongolian word for the narrow streets.
- ◆ The Summer Palace – Located on the western edge of Beijing, the Summer Palace was used as a summer residence by China’s imperial rulers – as a retreat from the main imperial palace - the ‘Forbidden City’ – a pleasure ground in the countryside, yet near to the city. The Summer Palace is a virtual museum of traditional Chinese gardening that uses rocks, plants, pavilions, ponds, cobble paths and other garden styles to create a poetic effect between different scenes. When you stroll around the Summer Palace, you constantly find the area changing. Truly impressive!
- ◆ The Great Wall Mu Tian Yu: this ‘must-see’ for any visitor to China is one of the few sites visible from space and is over 3,000 miles long. This massive structure may have once served as a barrier but it is now a location where all cultures meet and mingle.
- ◆ Trip to Shaanxi Province – Campers with their counsellors take an overnight train to Xi’an where they visit the Shaanxi History Museum, Great Goose Pagoda, the Great Mosque and Muslim Market. The highlight is a visit to the famed Terra Cotta Warriors before flying back to Beijing.



Visitors on a dramatic section of the Great Wall



Activities

- ◆ Calligraphy
- ◆ Painting
- ◆ Paper cutting
- ◆ Chinese cooking
- ◆ Football
- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ Tennis
- ◆ Volleyball
- ◆ Badminton
- ◆ Table Tennis
- ◆ Kite making and flying
- ◆ Swimming
- ◆ Tai Chi
- ◆ Martial Arts
- ◆ Traditional Chinese Dancing
- ◆ Chinese music
- ◆ Chinese language
- ◆ Basketball

Facilities include

- ◆ Six sports fields including a 400m rubber racetrack
- ◆ Two football pitches
- ◆ Night-lit basketball
- ◆ Volleyball courts
- ◆ Tennis courts
- ◆ Science Centre
- ◆ Arts Centre
- ◆ Modern gym
- ◆ Indoor swimming pool

