



Figure 1: MxSchons Tours

MxSchons Tours

The invite-only travel agency for discerning adventurers

A Personal Welcome from Your Host

Dear Esteemed Travelers,

On behalf of **MxSchons Tours** — the world's most exclusive invite-only travel agency (membership: 5 people, waiting list: also 5 people) — I am absolutely thrilled to present to you this meticulously crafted journey to Hangzhou!

We have combined the best of the best to ensure you have an absolutely legendary experience. From soaring over West Lake in a helicopter (yes, really!) to picking tea leaves like ancient emperors, from watching 700,000 LEDs light up the night sky to getting lost in magical water towns — this trip has it all.

Our team of experts (me, with help from Claude) has spent countless hours researching the finest restaurants, the most photogenic spots, and the perfect balance of adventure and relaxation. We've thought of everything: vegetarian options for certain picky eaters, massage breaks for tired feet, and strategic cafe stops for Chinese study sessions.

This isn't just a trip. This is a MxSchons Tours Experience™.

Pack your bags. Charge your cameras. Prepare your appetites.

Hangzhou awaits!

With excitement and anticipation,

Max

Founder, CEO, and Chief Adventure Officer

MxSchons Tours

P.S. — No refunds. You're family.



Figure 2: Your Host
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杭州家庭之旅

HANGZHOU FAMILY TRIP



April 13 – 27, 2026

Ten Days Exploring West Lake, Tea Villages & Beyond

MAX • DION • MARGOT • ALEX & LYNN

Meet the Travelers



Max

Frankfurt



Dion

Singapore



Margot

Frankfurt



Alex

Singapore



Lynn

Singapore

The Journey

Frankfurt → Hangzhou → Wuzhen → Shanghai → Frankfurt

Singapore → Hangzhou → Wuzhen → Shanghai → Singapore

Complete Journey Overview

This trip brings the family together in Hangzhou from two directions: Max and Margot fly directly from Frankfurt, while Dion, Alex, and Lynn travel from Singapore. Everyone reunites in Hangzhou for the adventure, then travels together to Shanghai before parting ways.

Date	Location	Activity
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Apr 13 (Mon)	Frankfurt → Hangzhou	Max + Margot fly direct to Hangzhou; arrive evening
Apr 13 (Mon)	Singapore → Hangzhou	Dion + Alex & Lynn fly from Singapore; arrive evening
Apr 13 (Mon)	Hangzhou	Family reunion at hotel; late dinner together
Apr 14–18	Hangzhou	West Lake, tea picking, helicopter, G20 light show, local gems
Apr 19 (Sun)	Hangzhou → Wuzhen → Shanghai	Scenic route via water town; arrive Shanghai evening
Apr 20–21	Shanghai	French Concession, The Bund, Huangpu cruise, Yu Garden
Apr 22 (Wed)	Shanghai → Singapore	Dion + Alex & Lynn fly to Singapore
Apr 22 (Wed)	Shanghai → Frankfurt	Max + Margot fly back to Frankfurt
Apr 23 (Thu)	Frankfurt	Max + Margot arrive home

Dion, Alex, and Lynn remain in Singapore after April 22.

Trip Overview

AT A GLANCE

This ten-day journey brings together five family members across two generations to experience Hangzhou and Shanghai during peak spring season. The itinerary balances cultural depth, natural beauty, and modern China while accommodating different energy levels and interests.

Dates	Monday, April 13 – Wednesday, April 22, 2026 (China)
Full Journey	April 13–27 including Singapore time + return to Germany
Travelers	Max (DE), Dion (SG), Margot (DE), Alex & Lynn (SG)
Accommodation	Wulin Jingyu Tingyuan Hotel — Panorama Canal View Rooms
Weather	21–22°C highs, 12–13°C lows, occasional spring rain

Dietary	Options for vegan (Max); others omnivore
Est. Budget	~50,000 RMB total (~\$6,800 USD) for all 5 people

ACCOMMODATION

Wulin Jingyu Tingyuan Hotel

A refined boutique hotel blending traditional Jiangnan architecture with modern comfort. Located in the historic Wulin district, the hotel features elegant courtyard gardens, tea lounges, and rooms designed with classical Chinese aesthetics. Prime location for exploring both West Lake and the Grand Canal area.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tea Leaf Picking at Meijiawu Village — Hands-on Longjing harvest during peak season
- Helicopter Flight Over Hangzhou — Route D covering West Lake, pagodas, and Qiantang River
- Qiantang River Night Cruise — G20 Summit light show with 700,000 LEDs
- Wuzhen Water Town — Illuminated canals en route to Shanghai
- Shanghai Exploration — French Concession, The Bund, Yu Garden, Huangpu River
- Gongyan Oriental Art Dinner — Immersive Han Dynasty dinner theater

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1 — Monday, April 13

ARRIVAL

A day of travel and reunion. The family converges on Hangzhou from two directions: Max and Margot fly direct from Frankfurt, while Dion, Alex, and Lynn travel from Singapore. Both groups arrive in the evening for an exciting reunion at the hotel and a late dinner together.

Time	Activity
Daytime	Max + Margot: Flight Frankfurt → Hangzhou (direct)
Daytime	Dion + Alex & Lynn: Flight Singapore → Hangzhou
Evening	Both groups arrive Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport
~8:00 PM	Transfer to Wulin Jingyu Tingyuan Hotel; family reunion!

9:30 PM	Late dinner at 新白鹿 (Xin Bailu) — popular local chain, great intro to Hangzhou flavors
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Pre-book separate airport transfers for each group (~280–400 RMB each). Coordinate arrival times for smooth reunion. Xin Bailu has vegetarian options for Max.

Day 2 — Tuesday, April 14

GENTLE START

A recovery day after the travel. Max gets his first Chinese class in while others relax. The afternoon brings everyone together for the classic West Lake experience and an easy introduction to Hangzhou street food at the night market.

Time	Activity
9:00–10:30	Max: Chinese class at cafe. Margot relaxes; Alex & Lynn explore canal.
11:00	Group reunites. West Lake lakeside promenade stroll.
12:30	Lunch at 楼外楼 (Lou Wai Lou) — Hangzhou's most famous restaurant since 1848
14:30	City God Pagoda for panoramic views
17:30	Wulin Night Market — street food intro

Lou Wai Lou: Try the legendary West Lake Vinegar Fish and Dongpo Pork. Tofu dishes available for Max. Cafe: 河下咖啡 (Hexia Coffee) — canal-side, peaceful for study.

Day 3 — Wednesday, April 15

NATURE & TEA

The signature Hangzhou nature day. Morning starts with the beloved Nine Creeks walk through bamboo groves and shallow streams, followed by the highlight: hands-on tea picking at Meijiawu during peak Longjing harvest season. The day culminates with an immersive Han Dynasty dinner theater.

Time	Activity
9:00–10:30	Max: Chinese class at Longjing village cafe
11:00–13:00	Nine Creeks Meandering Walk — shaded, scenic streams

13:00	Lunch at 龙井草堂 (Longjing Caotang) — garden restaurant in the tea village
14:30–17:00	Tea Picking at Meijiawu — picking, roasting, tasting (158 RMB/person)
19:00	Dinner at Gongyan Oriental Art — Han Dynasty dinner theater (498 RMB/person)

April is peak Longjing harvest (Yuqian grade). The Meijiawu experience includes drone aerial photos. Longjing Caotang specializes in tea-infused local dishes.

Day 4 — Thursday, April 16

BIG EXPERIENCES

The most spectacular day of the trip. After a relaxed morning, the group takes a helicopter flight over West Lake for breathtaking aerial views. Evening brings the famous G20 Summit light show viewed from a river cruise — 700,000 LEDs illuminating 35 buildings.

Time	Activity
9:00–10:30	Max: Chinese class
11:00–12:30	Group brunch at hotel or nearby cafe
13:30	Depart for Xinlian Heliport (Xiaoshan District)
14:30–16:00	Helicopter Flight — Route D (~25 min): West Lake, pagodas, river
18:00	Early dinner at 知味观 (Zhiweiguan) — famous for dim sum and Hangzhou classics
19:30	Qiantang River Night Cruise — Qianyin boat (168 RMB/person)
20:30	G20 Light Show — 700,000 LEDs on 35 buildings

Helicopter: 2,580 RMB/person. Zhiweiguan (est. 1913): Try xiaolongbao, cat ear noodles, and shrimp-stuffed lotus root. Vegetable dumplings for Max.

Day 5 — Friday, April 17

REST & LOCAL FLAVORS

A well-deserved rest day after the intensive helicopter and cruise day. Sleep in, enjoy a traditional breakfast, then indulge in affordable professional massages. Evening brings a special Hangzhou dining experience.

Time	Activity
Morning	Sleep in, relax at hotel
11:00	Late brunch at 游埠豆浆 — savory soy milk, fried dough, scallion pancakes
Afternoon	Group Massage — Yaoshi Blind Massage (~50–100 RMB/person)
Evening	Dinner at 外婆家 (Grandma's Home) — beloved local chain, excellent value

Grandma's Home: Hugely popular for authentic home-style Hangzhou cooking. Try tea-smoked duck, braised pork belly, and stir-fried greens. Always has vegetable dishes. Expect a short wait — worth it.

Day 6 — Saturday, April 18

MORNING MARKET & LOCAL GEMS

An early start for the authentic morning market experience at Dama Long — 240 meters of old Hangzhou charm that disappears by noon. The rest of the day is free for revisiting favorite discoveries or exploring new corners of the city.

Time	Activity
7:00	Morning Market — Dama Long (大马弄) — 240m of authentic local life
9:00–10:30	Max: Chinese class at cafe
11:00	Leisurely walk around Grand Canal scenic area
12:30	Lunch at discovered favorite or hotel restaurant
Afternoon	Flexible: Shopping, cafe hopping, or see Optional Activities
19:00	Farewell Hangzhou dinner at 朴竹 Pu Zhu (Michelin Green Star) or favorite spot

Dama Long opens ~6:30 AM, busiest 7–9 AM. Try 葱包桧 at 胡阿姨葱包桧. Pu Zhu: Hangzhou's first Michelin Green Star — elegant vegetarian fine dining if Max wants a special meal.

Day 7 — Sunday, April 19

WUZHEN & SHANGHAI

A scenic travel day that doubles as an experience. The journey to Shanghai passes through the magical water town of Wuzhen — perfectly positioned to catch the famous illuminated night scene before continuing to Shanghai for the final leg of the China adventure.

Time	Activity
9:00	Check out of Wulin Jingyu Tingyuan Hotel; luggage in car
9:30	Depart Hangzhou for Wuzhen (private car, ~1.5 hours)
11:00	Arrive Wuzhen; store luggage at visitor center (free)
11:30	Lunch in Wuzhen — local noodles, rice cakes
13:00–18:00	Explore Xizha (West Gate) — canals, bridges, traditional architecture
18:00	Lights come on at dusk — Wuzhen's legendary illuminated scene
20:00	Depart Wuzhen for Shanghai (~1.5 hours)
21:30	Arrive Shanghai; check into hotel; light supper nearby

Wuzhen entry: 150 RMB. Vegan options limited — try 定胜糕 (rice cake + red bean) and 青团 (green rice cakes). Max should bring backup snacks.

Day 8 — Monday, April 20

SHANGHAI DAY 1

A full day exploring China's most cosmopolitan city. The morning wanders through the tree-lined boulevards and Art Deco architecture of the French Concession. Evening brings the magical experience of The Bund at sunset followed by a Huangpu River cruise.

Time	Activity
9:00	Leisurely breakfast at hotel
10:00–13:00	French Concession walk: Wukang Road → Fuxing Park → Tianzifang
13:00	Lunch at Lost Heaven — stunning Yunnan cuisine in a beautiful heritage building
15:00–17:00	Shanghai Museum (free, air-conditioned) or continued exploration
17:30	The Bund promenade — sunset views, Pudong skyline
19:00	Huangpu River Night Cruise (~135 RMB, 45 min)
21:00	Dinner at 上海老饭店 (Shanghai Lao Fandian) — classic Shanghai cuisine since 1875

Lost Heaven: Beautiful setting, excellent mushroom and vegetable dishes for Max. Shanghai Lao Fandian: Try hongshao rou (red-braised pork), drunken chicken, and crab dishes in season.

Day 9 — Tuesday, April 21

SHANGHAI DAY 2

The final full day of the China adventure. Morning brings the historic Yu Garden at opening time before the crowds. The afternoon is flexible for last-minute shopping, exploring, or simply savoring the final hours in China.

Time	Activity
8:30	Early start — head to Yu Garden area
9:00	Yu Garden (豫园) — arrive at opening for quietest experience (40 RMB)
10:30	Brunch at 南翔馒头店 — legendary xiaolongbao since 1900
12:00	Explore Yu Garden Bazaar — traditional shops, souvenirs
Afternoon	Flexible: Nanjing Road shopping, more French Concession, or rest
18:00	Final dinner at 功德林 (Godly Vegetarian) — Shanghai's oldest vegetarian since 1922
Evening	Pack, early night before morning flight

Nanxiang: The original xiaolongbao restaurant — expect queues but worth it. Godly Vegetarian: A fitting final meal with both history and excellent food everyone can enjoy. Half-price Yu Garden entry for seniors 60+.

Day 10 — Wednesday, April 22

FAREWELL & DEPARTURE

The final morning in China. After breakfast together, the family shares a bittersweet farewell at Pudong Airport before going separate ways: Dion, Alex, and Lynn head back to Singapore, while Max and Margot begin their long journey back to Frankfurt.

Time	Activity
6:30 AM	Wake up, final packing
7:30 AM	Depart hotel for Pudong International Airport
9:00 AM	Family farewell at airport

Morning	Dion + Alex & Lynn: Flight Shanghai → Singapore
Morning	Max + Margot: Flight Shanghai → Frankfurt
Afternoon	Dion + Alex & Lynn arrive Singapore
Next Day	Max + Margot arrive Frankfurt

Allow 2+ hours at Pudong Airport for international departure. Hotel near Pudong recommended for easiest morning.

Post-Trip

APRIL 22–23

The adventure concludes in Shanghai, where the family parts ways: Dion, Alex, and Lynn return to Singapore while Max and Margot fly back to Frankfurt. A bittersweet farewell after an unforgettable journey together.

Date	Activity
Wed, Apr 22	Dion + Alex & Lynn fly Shanghai → Singapore; arrive afternoon
Wed, Apr 22	Max + Margot fly Shanghai → Frankfurt
Thu, Apr 23	Max + Margot arrive Frankfurt

Optional Activities

These experiences can be swapped into flexible afternoon slots or replace other activities based on the group's energy and interests.

XIXI NATIONAL WETLAND PARK

China's First National Wetland Park

A vast urban wetland just 5km from West Lake, Xixi offers a completely different Hangzhou experience — peaceful waterways, traditional villages, and rich birdlife. The park inspired the classic phrase 'Xixi and West Lake, like two pearls of Hangzhou.'

- Entry: 80 RMB (boat ride additional 60 RMB — recommended)
- Duration: Half day (3–4 hours with boat)
- Getting there: Metro Line 3 or 19 to Xixi Wetland Station

- Best for: Nature lovers, photographers, escaping crowds
- Tip: The slow boat ride through the wetland channels is the highlight — very peaceful

HANGZHOU BAY ECO DAY TRIP

Wetlands, Wind Turbines & Coastal Scenery

A full-day adventure combining nature and renewable energy installations. Best suited for those interested in eco-tourism and dramatic coastal landscapes.

- Hangzhou Bay National Wetland Park — eco-education center with solar/wind/geothermal
- Cixi Coastal Wind Road — drive beneath 33 massive wind turbines
- Duration: Full day (1.5–2 hour drive each way)
- Best for: Those wanting a break from historic sites

LINGYIN TEMPLE

One of China's Largest Buddhist Temples

A magnificent 1,700-year-old temple complex set against forested hills, with the remarkable Feilai Peak Buddhist carvings. A deeply atmospheric spiritual experience.

- Entry: 75 RMB (Feilai Peak) + 30 RMB (Temple)
- Duration: Half day (2–3 hours)
- Lunch nearby: Dayin Qingxin vegetarian buffet (30 RMB) — temple food tradition
- Best for: Those interested in Buddhist culture and forest settings

FAMILY PHOTOSHOOT

Professional Photography in Hangzhou

Hangzhou offers stunning backdrops for professional family photos. Consider two separate mini-sessions to capture both sides of the family.

- Session 1: Max + Margot — mother-son portraits at West Lake or tea plantations
- Session 2: Dion + Alex & Lynn — family portraits, perhaps with Hanfu (traditional dress)
- Locations: West Lake, Longjing Tea Village, Wuzhen, Grand Canal
- Cost: Basic session 500–1,000 RMB; Hanfu package 800–2,000 RMB/person

- Booking: Search '杭州旅拍' on Xiaohongshu/Dianping; book 1–2 weeks ahead

Restaurant Guide

A mix of legendary establishments, local favorites, and vegetarian options. Reservations recommended for dinner at popular spots.

HANGZHOU CLASSICS

Restaurant	Specialty	Price
楼外楼 Lou Wai Lou 1848	West Lake Vinegar Fish, Dongpo Pork — est.	150–250/person
知味观 Zhiweiguan 1913	Dim sum, xiaolongbao, cat ear noodles — est.	80–150/person
外婆家 Grandma's Home	Home-style Hangzhou — beloved local chain	60–100/person
新白鹿 Xin Bailu	Popular local chain — great value, diverse menu	50–80/person
龙井草堂 Longjing Caotang	Tea-infused dishes — garden setting in tea village	100–180/person
宫宴 Gongyan Oriental Art	Han Dynasty dinner theater — immersive experience	498/person
朴竹 Pu Zhu	Michelin Green Star — elegant vegetarian fine dining	300–500/person

SHANGHAI HIGHLIGHTS

Restaurant	Specialty	Price
Lost Heaven	Yunnan cuisine — stunning heritage building	150–250/person
上海老饭店 Lao Fandian est. 1875	Classic Shanghai — red-braised pork, crab —	120–200/person
南翔馒头店 Nanxiang 功德林 Godly Vegetarian	Original xiaolongbao — legendary since 1900 Shanghai's oldest vegetarian — est. 1922	50–100/person 70–120/person

All restaurants have some vegetarian options. Lou Wai Lou, Zhiweiguan, and Grandma's Home have good tofu and vegetable dishes for Max.

Budget Estimate

All prices in RMB. Exchange rate: ~\$1 USD = 7.3 RMB

Category	Per Person	x5	Total
ACCOMMODATIONS			
Wulin Jingyu Tingyuan Hotel (6 nights × 3 rooms)	~700/night	×3	12,600
Shanghai hotel (3 nights × 3 rooms)	~800/night	×3	7,200
EXPERIENCES			
Helicopter flight (Route D)	2,580	×5	12,900
Qiantang River night cruise	168	×5	840
Tea picking (Meijiawu)	158	×5	790
Gongyan dinner theater	498	×5	2,490
Wuzhen entry (full day)	150	×5	750
Huangpu River cruise	135	×5	675
Yu Garden entry	40	×5	200
Massage sessions (2x)	150	×5	750
TRANSPORT			
Airport transfer Hangzhou	~350	group	350
Private car HZ→Wuzhen→Shanghai	~1,200	group	1,200
Local taxis/Didi (~10 days)	~1,500	group	1,500
FOOD & DINING			
Daily meals (~180/day × 9)	1,620	×5	8,100
ESTIMATED TOTAL			
Base Trip Total	~50,000 RMB (~\$6,800 USD)		
With Optionals (photoshoot + Xixi)	~54,000 RMB (~\$7,400 USD)		
Per Person Average (base)	~\$1,360 USD / ~10,000 RMB		

Excludes international flights. Budget can be reduced by ~12,000 RMB by skipping helicopter.

Practical Information

KEY CONTACTS

Service	Contact
Tour Operator	John Wu: WhatsApp +86 135 6716 1784
Tour Guide	Dannie (from previous trip)
Wulin Jingyu Tingyuan Hotel	To be confirmed
Binjiang Pier (cruise)	+86-571-85178197

BOOKING TIMELINE

- 30 days before: Gongyan Oriental Art dinner reservation
- 15 days before: Photoshoot booking (if desired)
- 7 days before: Helicopter, cruise, Meijiawu tea experience
- 2–3 days before: Confirm all reservations, check weather for helicopter

USEFUL PHRASES

English	Pinyin	Chinese
Lighter pressure	qīng yī diǎn	轻一点
Harder pressure	zhòng yī diǎn	重一点
Pure vegan	chún sù	纯素
No meat, fish, eggs	bù yào ròu, yú, dàn	不要肉、鱼、蛋
This is delicious!	zhè ge hěn hǎo chī	这个很好吃

PACKING REMINDERS

- Layers (15–23°C range, cooler evenings)
- Rain jacket or umbrella (7–14 rainy days typical in April)
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Power adapter (China: Type A/I, 220V)
- VPN installed (for Google, WhatsApp)
- WeChat and Alipay set up before arrival

- Backup vegan snacks for Max (Wuzhen especially)



一路平安

Safe Travels

