



SCNZ Youth Tour

Wellington to Shanghai, Beijing and Xiamen
16th to 27th April 2017

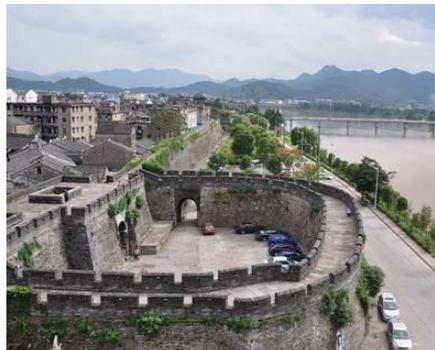


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Introducing Sister Cities New Zealand

Sister Cities New Zealand (SCNZ) aims to connect people globally for peace and prosperity. SCNZ supports 140 sister city relationships between New Zealand and overseas communities in 18 countries. Active in New Zealand for over 35 years, SCNZ is a registered non-profit organisation with a history of patronage by the Governor-General of New Zealand. The Sister Cities movement was founded by President Eisenhower at the 1956 White House Conference on Citizen Diplomacy. The current Honorary Chairman of Sister Cities International is President of the United States, Barack Obama.

SCNZ Youth Subcommittee

In March 2016, the SCNZ Board announced the creation of the SCNZ Youth Subcommittee. The Youth Subcommittee is comprised of young leaders from around New Zealand engaged in the promotion and enrichment of New Zealand's sister city relationships. The SCNZ Youth Subcommittee leads the annual SCNZ Youth Tour.



SCNZ Youth Tour Mission Statement

The SCNZ Youth Tour is an educational and cultural experience aimed at inspiring young New Zealanders to think and act as global citizens. Led by members of the SCNZ Youth Subcommittee, the tour operates on a “by youth for youth” basis, offering delegates the unique opportunity to engage in peer-learning and leadership development outside of the usual teacher-student dynamics. The SCNZ Youth Tour aims to showcase the bilateral relationship between the visiting and host country and immerse delegates in the educational, cultural, government and business life of the cities visited.

Timeline

In April 2017, a dozen senior students from Wellington high schools will be given the opportunity to be part of the inaugural SCNZ Youth Tour, visiting Shanghai, Beijing and Xiamen over ten days (not including travel days). Applications are accepted in rounds or on a ‘rolling basis’ meaning that applications can be taken at any time until 10 February 2016 or until places are full.

October 2016	24 th – Applications open
November 2016	13 th – First round applications close
December 2016	7 th – Second round applications close
January 2017	Fundraising event TBC
February 2017	10 th – Third and final round applications close Informal delegate get-together TBC
March 2017	19 th – Information evening / Tour documentation due.
April 2017	16 th – 27 th On Tour!

Meet the Tour Directors



Keari is a research assistant at the New Zealand Centre for Labour Employment and Work. She is passionate about global issues and education. Earlier this year she organised and led a delegation of 15 students to the United States where students met with staff and students at Ivy League universities and attended the Harvard and Yale Model United Nations. Keari has previously been a board member of the New Plymouth Girls' High School Board of Trustees. She is most looking forward to visiting Wellington's sister city Xiamen – the 'hidden gem' of China.



Cassie is a policy analyst and a member of the Asia New Zealand Foundation Leadership Network. She is a keen traveller and has previously lived in Singapore, New York, and Taipei. A serial entrepreneur, she sold her first business at the age of 25 and is the co-founder of a tea start-up. She has previously developed and run professional skills development workshops in Azerbaijan as part of a global community service programme organised by University students. This will be her second time in Mainland China.



Elisha is a legal content developer and has previously practiced law. She is a member of the Asia New Zealand Foundation Leadership Network and is passionate about promoting a deeper understanding and appreciation of Asia among young New Zealanders. Elisha has experience in organising and leading groups of high school students to Malaysia and Japan to participate in debating tournaments. She is fluent in written and spoken Chinese and will be liaising with stakeholders in China in support of the Youth Tour.



Michael is a program assistant at the China Cultural Centre in New Zealand. He is passionate about promoting the exchange of culture and ideas, having lived in China for nearly two years and studied the language for many more. He has experience in international leadership and event management gained from running awareness workshops in Malaysia about human trafficking, as well as working for a social media company in China. As a strong Mandarin speaker, Michael will assist in coordinating with Chinese partners and sponsors during the Youth Tour.

Itinerary

This itinerary is indicative and based on the best information available to the Tour Directors at time of writing.

Travel day	Sunday 16 th	Wellington / Shanghai	Fly from Wellington to Shanghai
Day 1	Monday 17 th	Shanghai	<p>Morning: Visit to New Zealand Central, a specialist NZ business and events centre.</p> <p>Afternoon: Tour provided by local AIESEC students and Victoria University of Wellington alumni of Shanghai, including the Bund, French Concession, Yuyuan Garden, and City God Temple.</p>
Day 2	Tuesday 18 th	Shanghai / Beijing	<p>Morning: Bullet train from Shanghai to Beijing.</p> <p>Afternoon: Visit the Pudong. CELAP is one of the four academies that train the next generation of young Chinese leaders.</p>
Day 3	Wednesday 19 th	Beijing	<p>Morning: Visit to the New Zealand Embassy including presentation on the bilateral NZ-China relationship by Ambassador John McKinnon, followed by Q&A session.</p> <p>Afternoon: Visit and lecture at the Forbidden Palace and Tiananmen Square</p>

Day 4	Thursday 20 th	Beijing	Full day: High school exchange organised by Beijing Youxie (the Beijing branch of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries).
Day 5	Friday 21 st	Beijing	Morning: Visit to the Summer Palace, a large outdoor area of lakes, gardens and traditional buildings and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Afternoon: Visit to the hutongs, a type of traditional area with courtyard residences, typically associated with Beijing. Includes free time.
Day 6	Saturday 22 nd	Beijing / Xiamen	Morning: Fly Beijing to Xiamen, greeting on arrival by Xiamen Local Government officials. Tour of Xiamen University. Afternoon: Visit to Xiamen dance school the 'Little Egrets' which have a strong relationship with Wellington. In early 2016 the Little Egrets led the Chinese New Year Festival parade in Wellington.
Day 7	Sunday 23 rd	Xiamen	Day visit to Gulangyu Island - a former international settlement for European and Japanese settlers with noticeably different architecture. Motor vehicles are banned on the island.
Day 8	Monday 24 th	Xiamen	Full day: High school exchange organised by the Wellington City Council and Sister Cities New Zealand.

Day 9	Tuesday 25 th	Xiamen	Day visit to UNESCO World Heritage site Yongding Tulou. These are historic fortified cities that house up to 800 people within a single 'donut' shaped building. About 3hrs bus from Xiamen.
Day 10	Wednesday 26 th	Xiamen	Morning: Visit to Xiamen Sunshine Group supermarket 'NZ corner' and discussion with NZ-based exporters. Afternoon: Free time in Xiamen. Final goodbye dinner.
Travel day	Thursday 27 th	Xiamen / Wellington	Fly from Xiamen to Wellington.

Accommodation

Accommodation throughout the tour will be in rooms of 2-4, with males and females provided with separate rooms. Once delegate numbers have been confirmed appropriate accommodation will be booked. There may also be the opportunity for the delegates to stay on campus at prestigious local Universities in dormitory-style lodging.

Health & Safety

SCNZ takes the health and safety of delegates very seriously. Delegates will be provided with the *SCNZ Welfare Protocols for International Delegations*, which includes a risk register, at the first information evening. Delegates are required to obtain comprehensive travel insurance for the duration of the tour. Delegates will also be briefed on how to travel safely in China (for example, to buy bottled water) prior to departure. Any pre-existing medical conditions must be disclosed to the tour directors prior to departure. Tour directors will be carrying a first aid kit with standard non-prescription medications and items on them at all times.

Financial Information

The estimated **maximum cost** of the tour is NZ\$3,500 per delegate. Payment can be made in installments.

This figure **includes** a generous contingency to provide for any unexpected events and ensure the safety and wellbeing of the delegates on tour. The nature of what is included is shown in the table on the following page.

This figure **excludes** any fundraising or sponsorship activities organised by the delegates or SCNZ that may help to lower the costs borne by delegates and their families. This figure also **excludes** charges for an entry visa and travel insurance, which will vary according to the personal details of the applicant (a NZ passport holder can expect to pay \$140 for a single-entry Chinese tourist visa).

Any unspent funds will be **returned to the delegates** upon completion of the tour. Sister Cities New Zealand is a registered non-profit organisation and receives no financial gain from the running of the SCNZ Youth Tour 2017.

Estimated Cost Breakdown

Item	Estimated Maximum Cost
Return flights New Zealand to China	\$1400
Travel within China	
- High Speed Train Shanghai To Beijing	\$200
- Flight Beijing To Xiamen	\$400
- Internal vehicular travel	\$240
Food	\$600
Accommodation	\$460
Attractions	\$200
Visa	\$140 (for NZ passport holders)
Travel insurance	Varies
TOTAL	\$3500

How to Apply

Eligibility

- Current Year 11s and 12s enrolled in a secondary school in Wellington (including Upper and Lower Hutt)
- There is no requirement for applications to be Chinese language students.

Preparation

- Talk to your parents or guardians, as they will need to give permission for you to join the SCNZ Youth Tour 2017.
- Talk to one of your teachers who knows you well, as you will need to provide the contact details (email address and phone number preferred) for one of your teachers as part of the application process.

Apply Online

If you are interested to find out more and stay up-to-date with the tour but are not able to commit just yet, please still apply. This is so we are aware of your interest and will be able to follow up and keep you informed of any new information or announcements.

- Go to www.sistercities.org.nz/youthtour and click the link marked 'Apply Online here'. This will take you to a web form.
- Applicants can expect to be notified if they have been shortlisted by **20 November 2016** unless the deadline for applications is extended, in which case the extension and new date of shortlisting announcements will be advertised on the SCNZ website.

Contact Us

Please contact the tour directors at any time with any queries, or comments at youthtour@sistercities.org.nz.

Supporters

SCNZ would like to thank the following organisations for their support in helping to organise the inaugural SCNZ Youth Tour!



Asia New Zealand
Foundation

