

My China Adventure

By Wossene Bayisa

Sightseeing

Seeing the sights in China was absolutely amazing. We started in Beijing. We climbed the Great Wall to its highest point at 888 meters. The Great Wall is considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World and I got a chance to not only see it but to climb it too! We went to the Forbidden City and famous Tiananmen Square. On our second night we ate traditional Beijing Duck.

Next we went to Shanghai. Here we saw the Yu Yuan Gardens which is a beautiful example of a Chinese Garden. We went to the Shanghai Museum and the Shanghai Stock Exchange. Since we were there right before the Olympic Games we saw one of the first torch ceremonies in Shanghai. I never seen streets so crowded before. Some of us also decided to visit the Shanghai Aquarium which has the longest underwater aquarium in the world. In the evening we went to an acrobatic show and it was amazing!

In Guangzhou we went to Yuexiu Park which is in through a forest and at the top is a park. We also got to go to Chen Family Temple which was interesting to me because I have always been interested in learning more about the Buddhist religion.

Hong Kong was like a movie picture of what you would think China looks like. We went to Victoria Point which is on top of a mountain. From the top of the mountain you can see all of Hong Kong. It was truly a majestic sort of feeling I got looking at the whole city from one spot.

Business Activities

In Beijing, we went and visited an International University. Here two college students like us gave us a tour and explained how the educational system works in China.

We went to Suzhou which is an hour and half from Shanghai and we visited SIP, Suzhou – Singapore Industrial Park which is an investment company. There we also got the chance to go to a silk

factory and we learned the process of making silk and to differentiate real from fake silk.

In Guangzhou we went to Bella Crafts which manufacturing toys and trinkets that we use around the holidays. Most of us buy these toys from stores like WalMart and Target. Here Bella, the co owner, gave us a presentation on their company and let us go to her factory. She gave us tour of the factory, during business hours and we got to see the factory workers and factory conditions in China.

Lastly, in Shenzhen we went to the US Dept of Commerce where they explained they work with US companies who want to export in China.

Shopping Tips

We went shopping in every city. You have to remember to bargain, and don't be scared to ask for a better price. The Great Wall was a great place, price wise, to buy souvenirs. They had \$1 Yuan t-shirts! The Silk Market in Beijing has every knock off imaginable. Beijing was the cheapest city to buy souvenirs.