

# Fujian, China

June 2016 Photoparadise Experience

Join me, Johann van der Walt on a photographic tour to one of the most beautiful places in China

# Fujian Province, China

- Fujian is a province on the southeast coast of mainland China
- It faces East China Sea to the east, South China Sea to the south, and the Taiwan Strait to the southeast.
- The coastline is rugged and has many bays and islands.





# Photoparadise in Fujian

- This province is still unknown to foreign photographers, yet, it is one of the most beautiful areas in China.

# Photoparadise in Fujian

- It is a specialised photographic tour.
- Over a period of 12 days we will be visiting parts of the Fujian province:
  - The Hakka Tulou of Longyan
  - The Xiapu Kelp farms and fishing activities
  - Traditional farming in the Yang Ping Creek



# Photoparadise in Fujian

- The Hakka Tulou of Longyan
  - These Community Housing or 'Fortresses for Equals' were built from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century
  - It is normally a round or square 3- to 5-stories high building enclosing all activities of daily life.
  - A Tulou clan consists of up to 80 families.
  - This [YouTube video](#) will tell you more about the Tulou
  - We will be staying one or two nights in one of these Tulous

# The Hakka Tulou of Longyan





# The Hakka Tulou of Longyan



# The Hakka Tulou of Longyan





# Photoparadise in Fujian

- The Xiapu Kelp farms and fishing activities
  - Xiapu county is located along a stretch of the East China Sea coast, with many harbours and islands.
  - This will form the main leg of our tour, photographing rural Chinese fishing activities, collecting seaweed, Kelp farming, and the coming in and going of the fishermen in their boats and flat bottomed push boats.
  - The mud flats are constantly changing with the tides.
  - We will visit many scenes over a 5 day period, sometimes photographing from the cliffs and sometimes close-ups of the locals busy with their daily activities.

# The Xiapu Kelp farms and fishing activities





# The Xiapu Kelp farms and fishing activities



# The Xiapu Kelp farms and fishing activities





# The Xiapu Kelp farms and fishing activities



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# The Xiapu Kelp farms and fishing activities





# Photoparadise in Fujian

- Traditional farming in the Yang Ping Creek
  - Within the Xiapu county, but just inland is a very special creek, where people are still farming in the traditional way as it was done 800 years ago.
  - We will be visiting this creek for one day to photograph the people amongst the trees that was planted by the first settlers of this area.



# Traditional farming in the Yang Ping Creek





# Traditional farming in the Yang Ping Creek



# Shenzhen

- The tour will start in Hong Kong and end in Hong Kong.
- We will pick you up on Hong Kong Airport and take you via taxi to Shenzhen in Mainland China.
- The first night as well as the last two nights we will be staying in Shenzhen.
- In Shenzhen we will visit Dapeng Fortress (an ancient village) and Dafen Art Village – to photograph and admire the world's most famous fake artists.





# Photoparadise in Fujian – Tour Plan

- Xiapu is about 1000km from Shenzhen. We will travel with the bullet train from Shenzhen to Xiapu and back (via Longyan). At an average speed of 250 to 300km/h it is about 4 and a half hour's travel.
- All travel costs and meals are included – from the Hong Kong Airport and back to Hong Kong. (Drinks are excluded)
- On the way back, if you want to do shopping in Hong Kong, you have the option of buying a special train ticket that allows you to book your luggage in 24 hours before your departure – freeing you from your bag while shopping. This ticket is not included in the tour price as some people may leave earlier than others.
- Note that this tour is not on the normal tourist routes, so we will be staying in typical “luxury” Chinese hotels and eat local Chinese food.

# Photoparadise in Fujian – Tour Plan

1	Friday	17-June	Arrive in Hong Kong. Taxi to Shenzhen. Afternoon and Dinner at O.C.T.
2	Saturday	18-June	Train to Xiapu
3	Sunday	19-June	Photography in Xiapu
4	Monday	20-June	Photography in Xiapu
5	Tuesday	21-June	Photography in Xiapu
6	Wednesday	22-June	Photography in Xiapu
7	Thursday	23-June	Xiapu sunrise and train to Longyan
8	Friday	24-June	Toulu in Longyan
9	Saturday	25-June	Toulu in Longyan
10	Sunday	26-June	Train to Shenzhen (Afternoon Free)
11	Monday	27-June	Visit Dapen Fortress and Dafen Art Village
12	Tuesday	28-June	Taxi to Hong Kong. Shopping/Street photography in Hong Kong and fly back to South Africa



# Photoparadise in Fujian - Costs

- The tour is planned and administrated by a local Chinese photographer (Xiaoyi Chen) and all payments must be made directly to her in Chinese Renminbi.
- The total cost for the tour is 7200 Renminbi, excluding your plane ticket. (per person sharing)
- A 50% deposit is payable on booking and the remainder must be paid 20 days before the tour starts.
- I looked on the SAA website and currently you can purchase a direct return flight from Johannesburg to Hong Kong for R9500.
- At the time of writing this, the ZAR/Renminbi exchange rate is 2.35. The total cost of the tour could therefore be about R26,000