

Cuandixia Near Beijing



VISUAL TRAVEL TOURS

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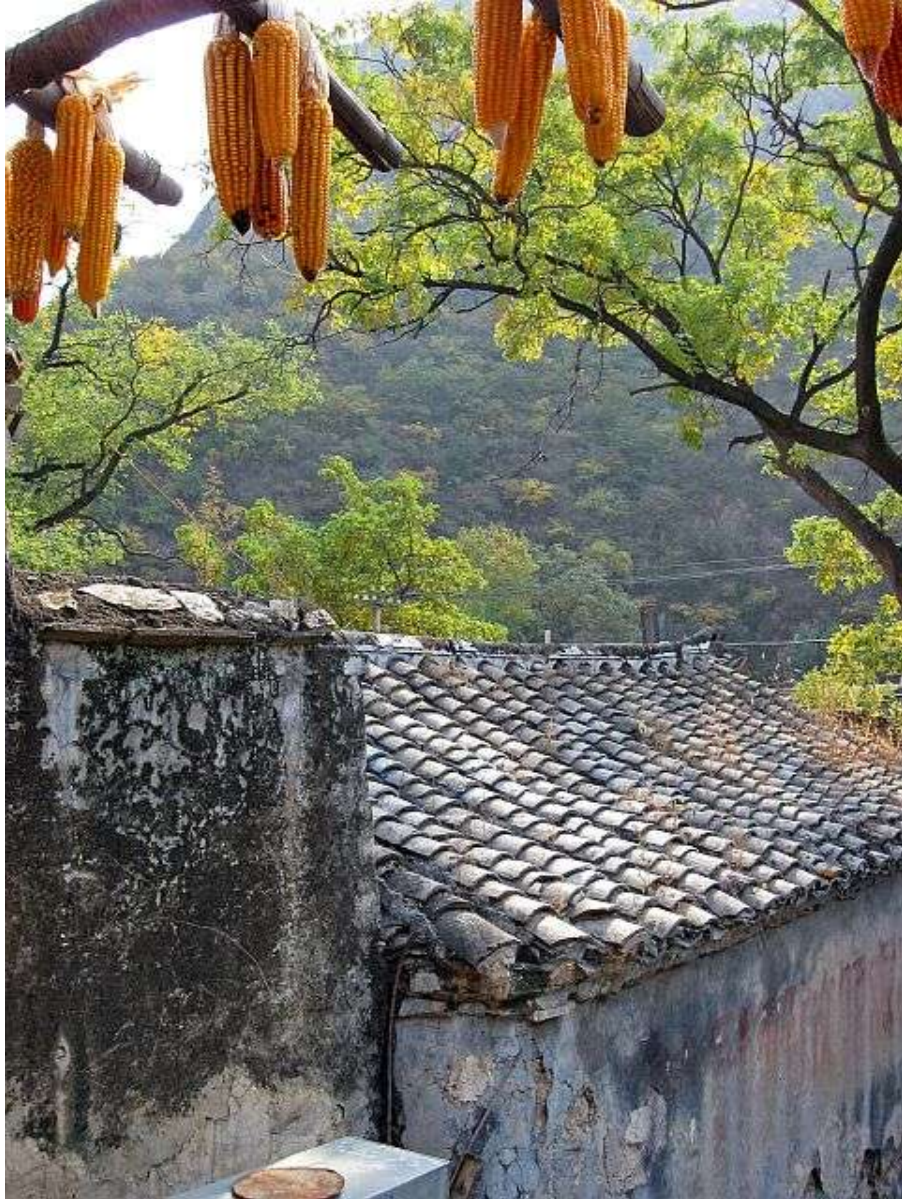
Tour Summary

Cuandixia was built more than 500 years ago as a resting place for weary travelers going through the mountains from Beijing to the west. It became prosperous by providing food to the Forbidden City, but the wealth diminished over the years. Once in danger of becoming a ghost town, the city is seeing new life as a tourist attraction. The remaining residents are opening their homes to give modern-day travelers a glimpse into the past. With old stone and brick buildings, Cuandixia is said to be the best-preserved ancient village in China.

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Introduction

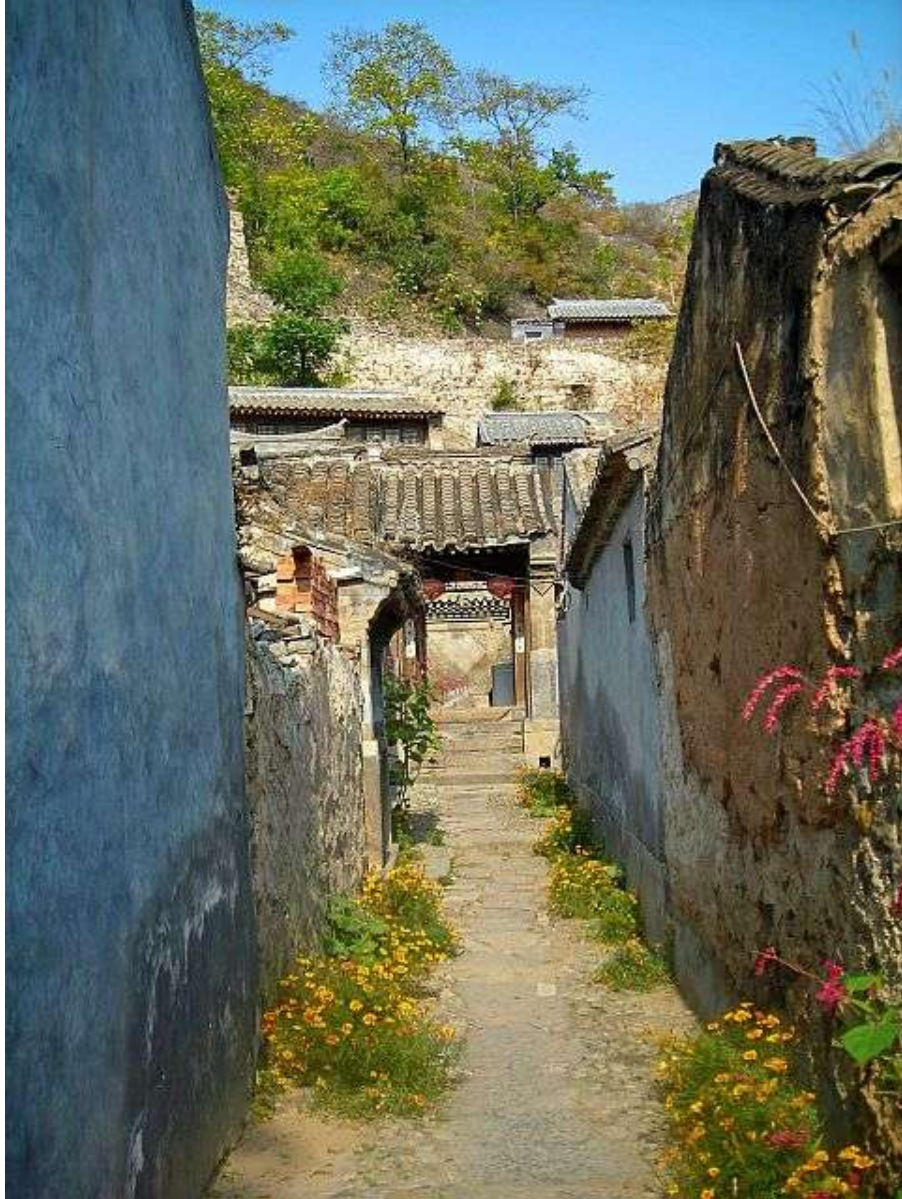




A trip to Cuandixia is like taking a trip back in time.



Cuandixia is an ancient village nestled on a mountainside about 90 kilometers west of Beijing. It's a living history museum.



To visit *Cuandixia* is to leave the modern world of Beijing behind. Except for modern conveniences such as propane gas for cooking, electricity, cell phones and television, the remote village doesn't

appear to have changed much since it was founded centuries ago.



Stone, brick and concrete houses, court yards, uneven steps and stone walkways.



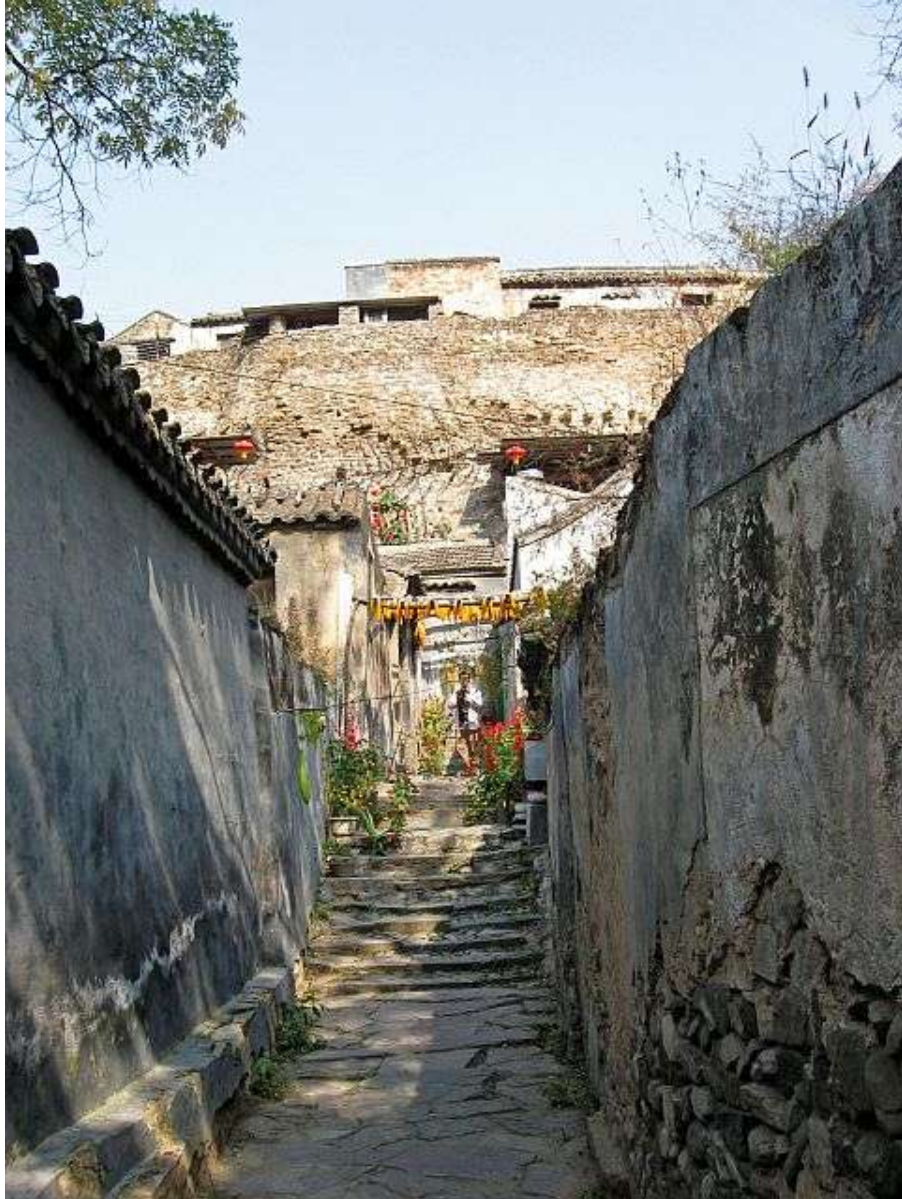
From a distance, the village resembles the villages which cling to mountain sides along the French Riviera. It is reminiscent of Eze Village in the mountains above Nice.



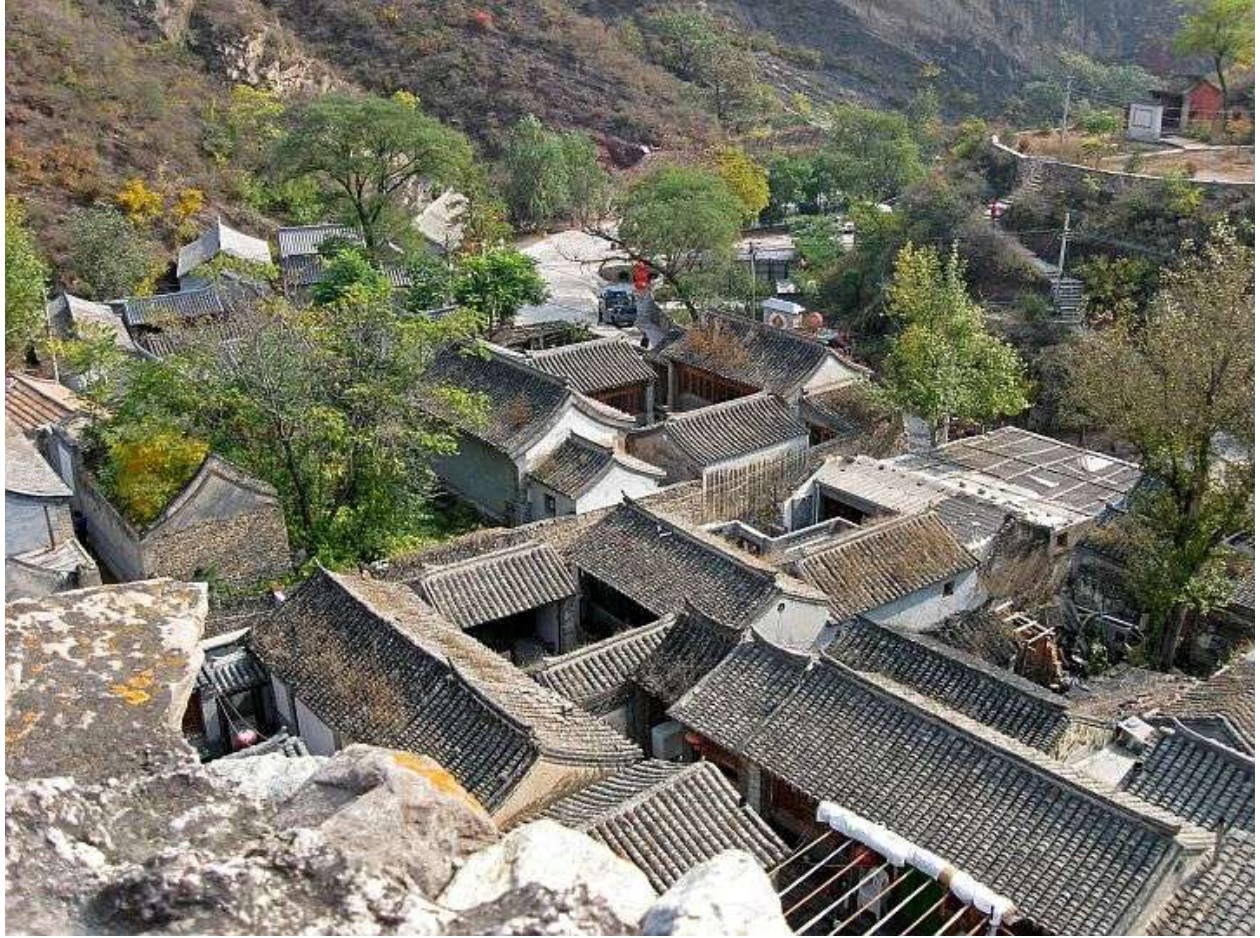
A visit to the picturesque village of Cuandixia is a chance to escape from the frenzied pace of Beijing.



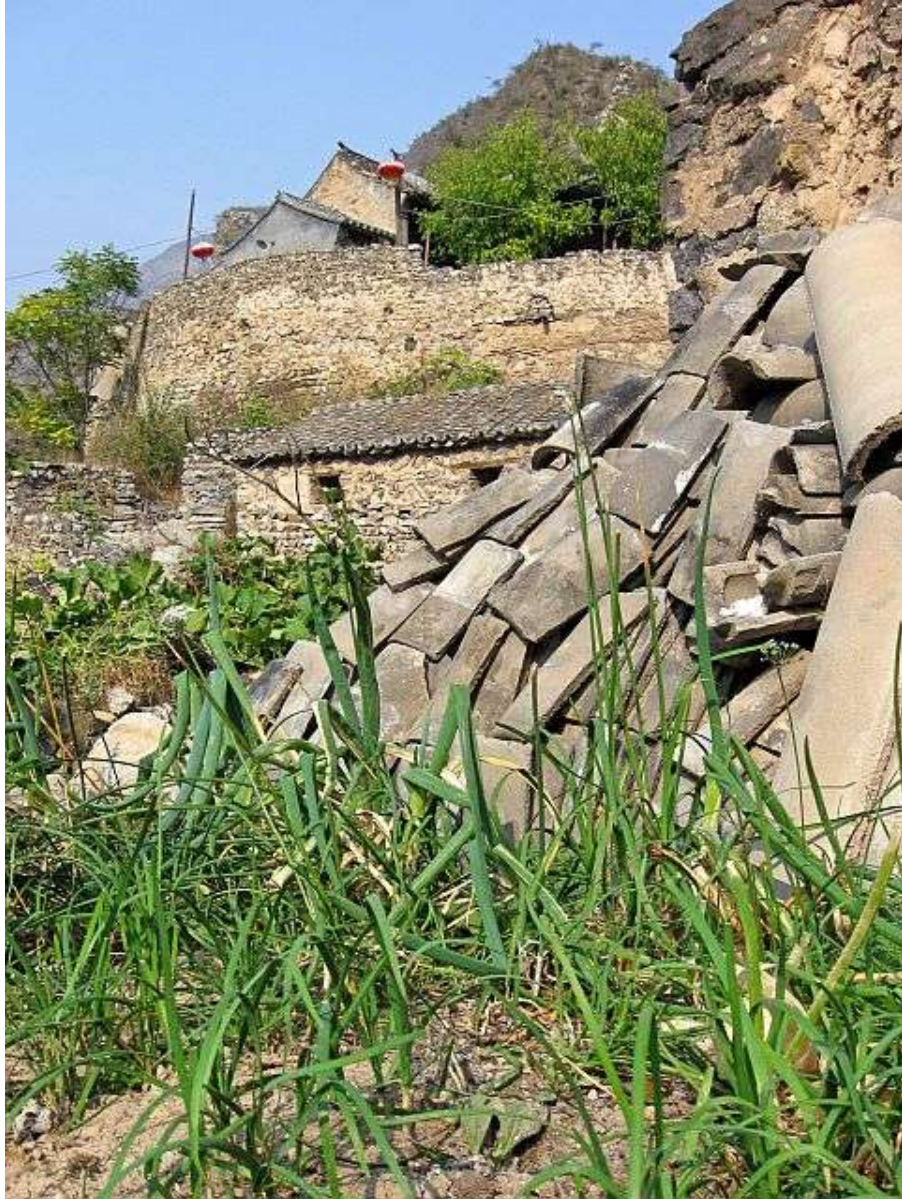
It is a perfect day trip from Beijing. It is also a perfect overnight trip for those who want to spend more time in this living museum.



It will take two to three hours to walk through the main part of the village.



Cuandixia's charm is even more evident when looking down from above.



The village is said to be the best preserved rural Ming Dynasty village in China.



Vegetables wait to be prepared for a meal.



Retaining walls give Cuandixia a fortress-like appearance.

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