

stars China alumni study tour to Shenzhen and Guangzhou 2026
From Copycat China to Innovation China

28 June - 1 July 2026

Shenzhen, Futian Shangri-La

Objectives

- Get on-the-ground insights in Shenzhen and Guangzhou – China’s innovation centers – through visits of global high-tech champions, unicorns and start-ups.
- Understand the state of the Chinese economy and the opportunities for foreign business.
- Act as a dialogue forum between China and the world, including a visit to the M+ Sigg Collection in HK, guided by Uli Sigg
- Background Information: [Link](#)

Hint:

China has decided to implement an **unilateral visa-free policy** for ordinary passport holders from 47 countries: [Notice on Visa Exemption Policy](#)

Sunday, 28 June 2026 - Shenzhen

15:00	Welcome Coffee		Shangri-La
16:00	Welcome Address	Toni SCHOENENBERGER Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland Representative of Government of Shenzhen	Sichuan Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor
16:30	Latest Developments of TMT (Technology, Media, Telecommunication) in China	Wilson CHOW Global, Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong Technology, Media and Telecommunications (TMT) Leader, PwC, Shenzhen, China	
17:15	Networking Coffee		Sichuan Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor
17:45	China and the World: De-risking, De-coupling, Re-connecting	Virginia CHEUNG (tbc) Director for China and Drucker Relationships, Peter F. Drucker School; former Associate Researcher, Shenzhen University; stars Alumna, Shenzhen, China Uli SIGG Art Collector, Business Leader, Former Swiss Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China, North Korea and Mongolia; Member, stars China Advisory Panel, Mauensee, Switzerland Alan YAM China Central Tax Leader, PwC China, Shanghai, China N.N. Moderator: Mark DITTLI Co-Founder and Financial Journalist, The Market, Zurich, Switzerland	Sichuan Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor
19:15	Cocktails and Dinner hosted by PwC Shenzhen		Jiangsu Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor

Monday, 29 June 2026 - Shenzhen - Global Champions

07:00	Individual Breakfast	Shangri-La
08:45	Departure	Lobby
09:00	Company Visit: Tencent - Tencent is a world-leading internet and technology company. (https://www.tencent.net.cn/)	Headquarter
	Tour of Exhibition Hall	
	Q&A session	John LO CFO, Tencent, Shenzhen, China
12:00	Lunch Buffet	Shenzhen Bay Marriott Hotel 4th Floor Wanhuiquan Restaurant
13:30	Departure to BYD	
15:00	Company Visit: BYD - BYD is a high-tech company devoted to leveraging technological innovations. (www.byd.com)	Headquarter
		BYD Showroom
		3 Main Lab
		Meeting with Top Management
18:00	Dinner hosted by BYD	
19:30	Depart. to Futian Shangri-La	
20:30	Arrival at Futian Shangri-La	Shangri-La

Tuesday, 30 June 2026 - Guangzhou - Unicorns

06:00	Individual Breakfast at Hotel and/or take away boxes on bus		Shangri-La
07:00	Departure for Guangzhou		Lobby
09:00	Company Visit: WeRide - A Leading Global Autonomous Driving Technology company. (www.weride.ai)	WeRide Representatives	Headquarter
11:30	End of Company Visit		
12:00	Lunch		Shangri-La Guangzhou, 3rd Floor
14:00	Company Visit: Ehang - EHang is the world's leading advanced air mobility technology platform company. (www.ehang.com)	Ehang Representatives	Headquarter
16:00	Departure for Shenzhen		
18:00	Arrival at Futian Shangri-La		Shangri-La
19:00	Dinner		Jiangsu Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor

Wednesday, 1 July 2026 - Shenzhen - Start-ups / Spinn-offs

07:00	Individual Breakfast		Shangri-La
08:00	Departure for SUSTech		Lobby
08:30	Visit of SUSTech: Research.Innovation.Entrepreneurship (www.sustech.edu.cn/en)		SUSTech Campus
	Insights into latest Research at SUSTech	N.N.	SUSTech Campus
09:30	Investment Opportunities in China/Shenzhen	Linda CAI Head, Corporate Finance China, PwC, Shanghai, China	SUSTech Campus
10:15	Coffee Break		SUSTech Campus
10:45	Presentation of 2 Start-ups		SUSTech Campus
12:15	Concluding Remarks	Toni SCHOENENBERGER Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland	
12:30	Lunch with Faculty and Students		SUSTech Campus
13:30	Departure for Shangri-La		
14:00	Arrival at Futian Shangri-La		Shangri-La
14:30	Departure to M+ Hong Kong		Meeting Point: Hotel Lobby, 1st Floor Shangri-La
17:00	Guided Tour of the M+ Sigg Collection	Uli SIGG Art Collector, Business Leader, Former Swiss Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, North Korea and Mongolia; Member, stars China Advisory Panel, Mauensee, Switzerland	M+ Hong Kong
19:00	Apéro riche		M+ Hong Kong
20:00	End		

The symposium is held under the Chatham House Rules.

stars reserves the right to make any necessary changes to the programme. The full terms and conditions of stars are available here.

24 February 2026

Partners

Local Partners



Knowledge Partners



Network Partners



Media Partners

