

## 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

#### 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	<b>Toni SCHOENENBERGER</b> Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland <b>Representative of Government of Shenzhen</b>	Sichuan Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor
16:30	The Potential of Shenzhen and the Greater Bay Area	<b>N.N.</b>	
17:00	Latest Developments of TMT (Technology, Media, Telecommunication) in China	<b>Wilson CHOW</b> Global, Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong Technology, Media and Telecommunications (TMT) Leader, PwC, Shenzhen, China	
17:30	Networking Coffee		Sichuan Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor
18:00	China and the World: De-risking, De-coupling, Re-connecting	<b>Wilson CHOW</b> Global, Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong Technology, Media and Telecommunications (TMT) Leader, PwC, Shenzhen, China <b>Uli SIGG</b> 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 <b>N.N.</b> <b>N.N.</b>	Sichuan Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor
19:15	Cocktails and Dinner		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. ( <a href="https://www.tencent.net.cn/">https://www.tencent.net.cn/</a> )	Headquarter
Exhibition Hall		
Meeting with Top Management		
12:00	Lunch Buffet	Shenzhen Bay Marriott Hotel 4th Floor Wanhuixuan Restaurant
13:30	Departure to BYD	
15:00	Company Visit: BYD - BYD is a high-tech company devoted to leveraging technological innovations. ( <a href="http://www.byd.com">www.byd.com</a> )	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)	<b>WeRide Representatives</b>	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)	<b>Ehang Representatives</b>	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
08:30	Departure for SUSTech		Lobby
09:00	Visit of SUSTech: Research.Innovation.Entrepreneurship ( <a href="http://www.sustech.edu.cn/en">www.sustech.edu.cn/en</a> )		SUSTech Campus
	Insights into latest Research at SUSTech	<b>N.N.</b>	SUSTech Campus
10:00	Coffee Break		SUSTech Campus
10:30	Investment Opportunities in China/Shenzhen	<b>Representative of PwC Shenzhen</b>	SUSTech Campus
11:00	Presentation of 2 Start-ups		SUSTech Campus
12:00	Concluding Remarks	<b>Toni SCHOENENBERGER</b> Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland	
12:15	Lunch with Faculty and Students		
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	<b>Uli SIGG</b> 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](#).

1 December 2025

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