

stars China alumni study tour to Shenzhen and Guangzhou 2026
Breaking Traditions - Learning from Global Champions, Unicorns, Start-ups
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
- Background Information:

Sunday, 28 June 2026 - Shenzhen

15:30	Welcome Coffee		Shangri-La
16:30	Welcome Address	Toni SCHOENENBERGER Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland Representative of Government of Shenzhen	Sichuan Room Shangri-La, 3rd Floor
17:00	China and the World: De-risking, De-coupling, Re-connecting	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 N.N. N.N.	
	Panel Discussion		
18:30	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
09:30	Company Visit: Sensetime (www.sensetime.com)	Headquarter
	Sensetime Corporate Tour	
	Keynote Session: AI Development & Innovation	
12:00	Lunch Buffet	Shenzhen Bay Marriott Hotel 4th Floor Wanhuiyuan Restaurant
13:30	Departure to BYD	
15:00	Company Visit: BYD (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
06:30	Departure for Guangzhou		Lobby
	Guest: Mandy LIN Director China, Greater Zurich Area, Zurich, Switzerland		Lobby
09:00	Company Visit: WeRide (www.weride.ai)	WeRide Representatives	Headquarter
09:00	Group 1 minibus test ride; Group 2 company visit		
09:20	Group 2 minibus test ride; Group 1 company visit		
09:40	Remote monitoring system demo		
10:00	WeRide Presentation		
10:40	Open discussion		
11:00	Departure		
12:00	Lunch		Shangri-La Guangzhou, 3rd Floor
	Welcome Speeches	Markus THÜR Consul General, Consulate General of Switzerland, Guangzhou, China Mandy LIN Director China, Greater Zurich Area, Zurich, Switzerland	
14:30	Company Visit: Ehang (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
09:00	Departure for SUSTech		Lobby
09:30	Visit of SUSTech (www.sustech.edu.cn/en)	Representatives of the Southern University of Science and Technology	SUSTech Campus
	Introduction		
	Insights from the Institute of Risk Analysis, Prediction and Management Risks-X, jointly founded with ETHZ		
	Q&A		
11:30	Concluding Remarks	Toni SCHOENENBERGER Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland	
	Lunch with Faculty and Students, hosted by SUSTech		
13:30	Arrival at Futian Shangri-La		Shangri-La
14:00	Optional Programme: Departure to M+ Hong Kong		Meeting Point: Hotel Lobby, 1st Floor Shangri-La
17:00	stars Hong Kong alumni chapter meeting		M+ Hong Kong
	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	
19:30	End of Optional Programme		

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](#).

9 October 2025

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