



## Asia Discovery Tours

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### 17 Days Tour to Grand Silk Road & Southern Xinjiang (Tour Code: CXT)



*Follow in the footsteps of Marco Polo and explore the highlights along Silk Road and South Xinjiang on this 17-day private guided tour from Urumqi, Kashgar, Tashkurgan, Aksu, Kuche, Koala, Turpan, Dunhuang and Xi'an. Discover the scenic, cultural, religious and historic highlights, including Urumqi Grand Bazaar, Heavenly Lake, Urumqi Regional Museum, Cara Cooley Lake & Stone City in Tashkurgan, Id Kah Mosque and old town of Kashgar, Tianshan Grand Canyon in Aksu areas, Taklimakan Desert in Koala, Jiaohe ancient town ruin, Karez Wells, Flaming Mountain and grape valley in Turpan, Mingsha Mountain, the Crescent Spring, Yumen pass, Hecang ancient city ruin, Han Dynasty great wall ruin & Mogao*

*Grottos in Dunhuang and visit the World Heritage Terracotta Warriors of Xi'an. You will enjoy this guided tour, which will leave an everlasting memory with you for your lifetime.*

#### **Day 01, 07 Sep: Sydney or Melbourne – Shanghai**

**MU0562, 07 Sep. Sydney – Shanghai 11:00/19:15**

**MU0718, 07 Sep. Melbourne – Shanghai 11:00/19:50**

Depart to Shanghai in the morning and arrive in the evening. Upon arrival, you are met and transferred to hotel.

Accommodation: Shanghai Ramada Plaza Shanghai Pudong Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

#### **Day 02, 08 Sep.: Shanghai – Urumqi (B.D)**

**FM9219, 08 Sep. Shanghai – Urumqi 14:10/19:20**

You are at leisure in the morning. Afterwards, you are transferred to airport for your flight to Urumqi. Upon arrival, you are met and transferred to your hotel.

Accommodation: Mercure Urumqi Hualing Hotel or similar



### **Day 03, 09 Sep: Urumqi (B.L.D)**

After breakfast, travel to visit Heavenly Lake. It will take one hour ride to Heavenly Lake, which is located on the north side of the Tianshan Mountains to enjoy fantastic mountain views and serene lake scenery.

Afterwards, return to Urumqi to visit Xinjiang Regional Museum. Stay overnight in Urumqi.

Accommodation: Mercure Urumqi Hualing Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

### **Day 04, 10 Sep: Urumqi – Kashgar (B.D)**

#### ***EU2983, 10 Sep. Urumqi – Kashi 12:00/13:55***

After breakfast, enjoy your visit to the grand Bazaar. After that, you are transferred to Urumqi Airport to have your flight from Urumqi to Kashgar in the afternoon. Arrive in Kashgar in the afternoon. You are met in the airport and transferred to hotel.

Accommodation: Kyriad Marvelous Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

### **Day 05, 11 Sep: Kashgar – Tashkurgan (B.L.D)**

After breakfast, we are going to visit the famous Flea Market in Kashgar to experience the trading in local culture. And then, drive to Tashkurgan County. We can see the Uygur farmers in rural scenery.

Overlooking the southern Flaming Mountains and the beautiful scenery, enjoy an altitude of 7546 meters of the snow mountain and Cara Cooley lake. After lunch drive to Tashkurgan County. Stay overnight in Tashkurgan.

Accommodation: Grand Hotel Chogori\*\*\*\* or similar

### **Day 06, 12 Sep: Tashkurgan – Kashgar (B.L.D)**







After breakfast, we drive to Stone City, which is one of the thirty-six kingdom locations names Puli Kingdom in the western regions before 2000 years ago. After that, we will return to Kashgar. Stay overnight in Kashgar.

Accommodation: Kyriad Marvelous Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

#### **Day 07, 13 Sep: Kashgar (B.L.D)**

The highlight today's city tour of Kashgar will be our visit to the Sunday Livestock Market, the largest livestock market in Asia. We will also

visit the Kashgar Old Town, the Giant Bazaar, the Id Kah (China's largest mosque) and the Ajaq Khoja Mausoleum (the holiest local Muslim site in Xinjiang). Stay overnight at Kashgar Hotel. Accommodation: Kyriad Marvelous Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

#### **Day 08, 14 Sep: Kashgar – Aksu (B.L.D)**

After breakfast, we drive to Aksu. Afternoon travel to Aksu. We will walk in the Fengquan River Park. Fengquan River Park is located in the southwest of Aksu City, with a total length of 1,900 meters from north to south, covering a total area of 138 hectares. It is a national 3A tourist attraction. Stay overnight in Aksu.

Accommodation: Tianyuan International Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

#### **Day 09, 15 Sep: Aksu – Tianshan Grand Canyon – Kuche (B.L.D)**

After breakfast, we head to the Grand Canyon of Tianshan and experience the geological park which was formed 25 million years ago. Afterwards drive to Kuche and stay overnight there.

Accommodation: Kucha Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

#### **Day 10, 16 Sep: Kuche – Desert Road – Korla (B.L.D)**

After breakfast, we drive to Luntai desert road, the longest desert road in the world with a total length of 446km and cross the "dead sea" — Taklimakan Desert, known as the "the green Great Wall". You can enjoy the Millennium Populus Euphratica forest along the way, because rooted over 50 meters down the ground, they thrive in hostile environments, defying droughts, sandstorms and salinization, survive and multiply in the desert. It was praised as "desert hero tree", we will drive one part of the desert road to make sure everyone can appreciate this magnificent "Dead Sea". After that travel to Korla and stay overnight there.





Accommodation: Jinjiang Metropolo Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

**Day 11, 17 Sep: Korla – Turpan (B.L.D)**

After breakfast, we travel to visit the ancient pass – Tiemenguan. At noon in Tokxun County to taste Xinjiang noodles. After that, travel to Turpan, where we will visit Jiao He ancient town ruin. Stay overnight in Turpan. Accommodation: Mercure Hotel Turpan Downtown\*\*\*\* or similar

**Day 12, 18 Sep: Turpan (B.L.D)**

Enjoy a Turpan day tour today. We are going to visit the greatest irrigation system in Xinjiang and entire central Asia: Kariz Wells. Kariz is a kind of underground canal to protect water from snow mountains away from dry out when running through desert. After that, we will pass by flaming Mountain (Huoyanshan) and visit grape valley. You can experience local style life there. Lastly we are going to visit Sugong Tower. Visit Turpan night market and try local BBQ in the evening. Stay overnight in Turpan city. Accommodation: Mercure Hotel Turpan Downtown\*\*\*\* or similar

**Day 13, 19 Sep: Turpan – Dunhuang (B.L.D)**

In the morning, we are travelling by high-speed train from Turpan to Liuyuan train station (**Reference train: 09:15 – 12:43**). Upon arrival, we will be met and drive to visit Mingsha mountain, where the sandhills coexisted with the springs, and were named for the sound of sand. Here we can climb sand hills, overlook the Crescent Spring, enjoy the desolate vastness of the northwest desert on the top of the mountain, ride camels, and enjoy the intoxicating sunset of Mingsha Mountain. And then drive to Dunhuang and stay overnight in Dunhuang. Accommodation: Tianrun Yibo Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

**Day 14, 20 Sep: Dunhuang (B.L.D)**

In the morning, we are going to visit Yadan demon city and then visit Yumen pass, Hecang ancient city ruin and Han Dynasty great wall ruin in the Gobi Desert. We will be back to Dunhuang in the afternoon to enjoy Dunhuang night market. Stay in Dunhuang overnight. Accommodation: Tianrun Yibo Hotel\*\*\*\* or







similar

**Day 15, 21 Sep: Dunhuang – Xi'an (B.L.D)**

***MU2216, 21 Sep. Dunhuang – Xi'an 15:45/18:10***

After breakfast, visit Mogao Grottoes. These are the most famous and best-preserved grottoes in the world. After that, you are transferred to airport for your flight from Dunhuang to Xi'an. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to hotel in Xi'an.

Accommodation: Novotel Xi'an The Bell Tower Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

**Day 16, 22 Sep: Xi'an – Shanghai – Sydney or Melbourne (B)**

***MU2176, 22 Sep. Xi'an – Shanghai (PVG) 13:30/15:55***

***MU0561, 22 Sep. Shanghai (PVG) – Sydney 20:20/09:00 (23 Sep.)***

***MU0737, 22 Sep. Shanghai (PVG) – Melbourne 20:15/09:00 (23 Sep.)***

After an early breakfast, we will be taken to the World Heritage listed site of the Terracotta Warriors, an army of life-sized terracotta figures found in the tomb of China's first Emperor Qin Shi Huang (246 – 211 BC), to protect him in the afterlife. After the exhibition, we will be transferred to airport for your flight to Sydney or Melbourne from Xi'an via Shanghai and fly overnight.

**Day 17, 23 Sep: Sydney or Melbourne Arrival**

Arrive in Sydney or Melbourne in the morning. Your unforgettable China Xinjiang tour ends.

Tour price: \$4,920 per person, twin or double share

Single supplement: \$1,120

**This tour price includes:**

1. China Eastern economy class air-tickets: Sydney/Melbourne – Shanghai – Urumqi/Dunhuang – Xi'an – Shanghai – Sydney/Melbourne, airport tax and fuel surcharge.
2. Chengdu Airlines or similar domestic economy flight from Urumqi to Kashgar with airport tax.



3. Second class high-speed train ticket from Turpan to Dunhuang (Liuyuan South).
4. 15-night accommodation at the hotels mentioned in the itinerary or similar.
5. Transfers and transport.
6. Meals as indicated (15 breakfasts, 12 lunches and 14 dinners).
7. Sightseeing with entrance fee as mentioned.
8. Professional English-speaking guide.
9. Gratuities to guides and drivers.
10. One bottle of spring water per person per day.

**This tour price excludes:**

1. Travel insurance.
2. China visa if applicable (we don't know whether Australian passport holders need visa to enter China or not next year).
3. Meals not mentioned in the itinerary.
4. Personal expenses.

