

Silk Road Discovery

Tour Code: TS

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15 Days, 12 Nights | Beijing, Urumqi, Turpan, Dunhuang, Xian, Shanghai

The Silk Road Discovery retraces footsteps of caravans and merchants who linked the East and West along this ancient trade route. Discover the ruins of Jiahoe City and Gaocheng City near Turpan and immerse yourself in the unique culture, song, and dance of the Uygur minority in Urumqi. Study the ancient Magao Grotto paintings sketched by monks, merchants, and nobles from eras and dynasties long passed, and visit the Xian excavation site containing the treasured Terracotta Warriors. You will also enjoy modern-day China attractions on this journey that takes you through the bustling streets of Beijing and Shanghai. Experience ancient and modern civilizations along your Silk Road Discovery.



Emin Minaret, Turpan, China

Western End of the Great Wall at Jiayuguan

Tour Highlights

Beijing (3 Nights):

Bird's Nest (outside), Water Cube (outside), Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Summer Palace, pearl and jade factory

Urumqi (4 Nights):

Heaven's Lake and Great Bazaar

Turpan:

Gaocheng City Ruins, Karez Well and Sugong Pagoda

Dunhuang (1 Night):

Mogao Grottoes, Crescent Moon Spring and Humming Sandy Mountain

Xian (2 Nights):

Terracotta Warriors, Big Goose Pagoda and Ancient City Wall

Shanghai (2 Nights):

Pearl TV Tower Ride, Yu Yuan Gardens, Old Shanghai District, Bund and Pudong District

Entertainment: Kung Fu Show (Beijing), Uygur Show (Urumqi) and Tang Dynasty Show (Xian)

Optional Tours: Shanghai - Harbor Cruise or Shanghai Acrobat Show

Tour Price Includes: International & Domestic China Airfare, Meals, Tours, Guides and Hotels



Bezeklik Caves in Xinjiang, China

Entering the ruins of an ancient Buddhist town near Urumqi, China, along the Silk Road

Itinerary

AB: American Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, SD: Specialty Dinner

Day 1-2 Depart from LAX

Board a Trans-Pacific flight to Beijing.

Day 3 Beijing (AB, L, D)

Arrive in Beijing in the early morning. Prior to checking into the hotel, we visit sites of the 2008 Olympic Games such as the Bird's Nest (outside) and the Water Cube (outside). After resting up, we visit the Summer Palace and a pearl factory.

Day 4 Beijing (AB, L, SD)

After breakfast, we visit the Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven. In the evening, we are treated to a famous Peking Duck Welcome Banquet.

Day 5 Beijing (AB, L, D)

Along the way to the Great Wall, we stop by a jade factory. After exploring the Great Wall, lunch is served. We then return to the city for shopping followed by dinner and a Kung Fu Show.

Day 6 Beijing-Urumqi (AB, D)

Take a morning flight to Urumqi, the capital of the Xinjiang Autonomous Region in Northwestern China, home to the Uygur minority nationality.

Day 7 Urumqi (AB, L, D)

We spend the day traveling through the countryside to Heaven's Lake and the surrounding pristine Tian Shan Mountains at more than 6,000 feet above sea level. Later we pay a visit to the home of a local Uygur family. In the afternoon, we visit the Great Bazaar.

Day 8 Urumqi - Turpan - Urumqi (AB, L, D)

In the morning we make our way to Turpan, an oasis amid desert sands. In Turpan we visit the famous Karez Wells and the ancient ruins of Jiahoe City. This afternoon we will visit the Gaocheng City Ruins and Sugong Pagoda before returning to Urumqi.

Day 9 Urumqi (AB)

Today is free to explore the local culture and lifestyle. The evening will feature a Uygur song and dance performance, depending on availability.

Day 10 Urumqi-Dunhuang (AB, L, D)

Board a morning flight to Dunhuang, an important oasis city along the Silk Road, most famous for the Mogao Grottoes. These were painted by monks, merchants and nobles that made their way along the Silk Road. We also visit Crescent Moon Springs and the Humming Sandy Mountain.

Day 11 Dunhuang-Xian (AB, L, SD)

Board a morning flight to Xian and enjoy an excursion to the Big Goose Pagoda. Later, we experience a Tang Dynasty Show and we complete the day with a Chinese Dumpling Banquet.

Day 12 Xian (AB, L, D)

Today we visit the Eighth Wonder of the World, the Terracotta Warriors excavation site. This site contains more than 7,300 sculptures crafted 2,000 years ago to honor China's first Emperor, Qin Shi Huang. After lunch, we visit the Ancient City Wall and Bell Tower.

Day 13 Xian-Shanghai (AB, L)

Take a flight out to Shanghai. Visit Yu Yuan Garden, Old Shanghai District and Pearl TV Tower. Later, we stroll along Nanjing Road and the Bund. An optional Shanghai Harbor cruise or Shanghai Acrobat Show completes the evening.

Day 14 Shanghai (AB)

The day is free to explore Shanghai on your own. We suggest visiting the Shanghai 2010 Expo beginning May 1st, 2010 through October 31st, 2010!

Day 15 Shanghai-USA (AB)

The morning is free before catching our flight home via Beijing.

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(Flights from JFK add \$250/SFO \$150, includes extra night hotel and transfer)

Departs (SAT)	Returns (SAT)	LAX
4/17	5/1	\$3,599
5/22	6/5	\$3,699
6/19	7/3	\$3,899
7/24, 8/14, 9/4, 10/9	8/7, 8/28, 9/18, 10/23	\$3,699

Prices do not include:

- Airport Tax
- Chinese Visa
- Recommended Travel Insurance (p.46)
- Single Supplement - \$865
- Child (2-11) fare is 75% rooming with 2 adults without bed

Add-on airfare by Time Zone to LAX from:

- Eastern Standard Time Zone - \$390
- Central Standard Time Zone - \$330
- Mountain Standard Time Zone - \$330
- Pacific Standard Time Zone - \$160



This tour can be extended to Hong Kong, 3 days/2 nights with land tour and airfare starting from only \$790. Other extensions are also available including Tokyo, Vietnam and Thailand. Please see page 43-44.

Call for details: (866) 99-CHINA