

Silk Road Explorer



Embark on a journey of discovery along the historic Silk Road

Camels on the Silk Road

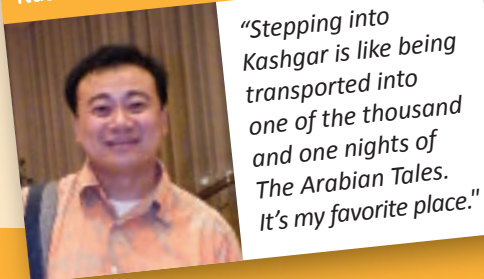
“Considering we were traveling in very remote parts of China, both meals and accommodations exceeded our expectations, as did the scenery. Thank you for a memorable and wonderful experience.
Mr & Mrs Joseph, September 2009”

27 days from \$5,490pp
Fully Inclusive from the US

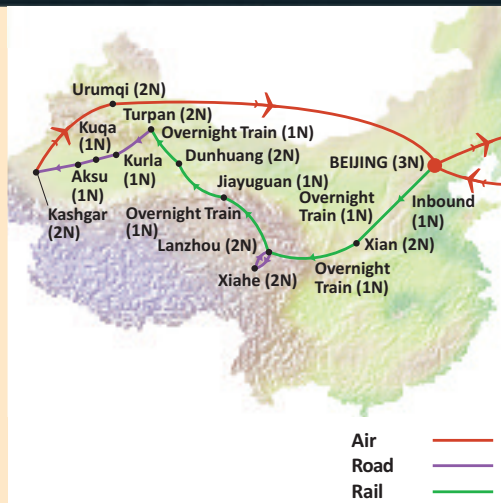
Follow in the footsteps of Marco Polo to discover the history of the Silk Road, a centuries-old route strongly influenced by Muslim and Buddhist beliefs. Visit ancient forts and desert oases, walk on the far western end of the Great Wall and experience the famous bustling Sunday Market in Kashgar.

This tour reaches a maximum altitude of 10,200ft at Xiahe.

National Escort Hoffman Hou's tour highlights



“Stepping into Kashgar is like being transported into one of the thousand and one nights of The Arabian Tales. It's my favorite place.”



Days 1-2: US – Beijing

Fly overnight to Beijing, China's capital city. Our evening meal includes the local delicacy, Peking Duck.

Day 3: Beijing

Walk on the Great Wall, visit the unique Temple of Heaven and enjoy a fascinating Chinese Acrobatic show.

Day 4: Beijing – Xian

Sightseeing today includes a stroll through Tiananmen Square, past Chairman Mao's Mausoleum to the treasure-filled Forbidden City. We also tour the exquisite Summer Palace before boarding the overnight train to Xian, the former ancient capital.

Days 5-6: Xian

Arrive in Xian and visit the Little Wild Goose Pagoda. In the evening, enjoy a traditional Shui Jiao dumpling meal followed by a performance of Tang Dynasty dancing. The next day, visit one of the most important archaeological discoveries of the 20th century – the Terracotta Warriors and walk along the Ancient City Wall.

Day 7: Xian – Lanzhou

Visit the renowned Shaanxi Museum which is home to thousands of priceless relics. We also stroll through the lively Muslim Quarter to explore the Islamic food markets before boarding the overnight train to Lanzhou.

Days 8-9: Lanzhou

Arrive in Lanzhou and stroll through the park by the Yellow River, visit the Baita (White) Temple and sample the local hand-stretched noodles. The next day, transfer by speedboat on picturesque Lioujiaxia Lake to visit the renowned Bingling Caves.

Days 10-11: Lanzhou – Xiahe

Travel through the scenic Jishi Mountain Pass to Xiahe, which is set in a beautiful valley known as 'Little Tibet'. The next day, visit the mystical Labrang Monastery of the Gelugpa sect, which is home to over 1,200 monks and tour the rolling pastures of Sangke Grasslands where wild flowers flourish.

Days 12-13: Xiahe – Lanzhou – Jiayuguan

Return to Lanzhou and board the overnight train to Jiayuguan. The next day, visit Jiayu Fortress and walk along the western end of the Great Wall.

Day 14: Jiayuguan – Dunhuang

Travel to Dunhuang, which is located at the edge of the Taklamakan Desert.

Days 15-16: Dunhuang – Turpan

Visit the world famous Buddhist murals and sculptures of the Mogao Grottoes. The next day, tour Crescent Moon Spring and see the spectacular Singing Sand Dunes. Later, board the overnight train to Turpan.

Days 17-18: Turpan

Visit the ancient ruined city of Jiaohe and admire the Flaming Mountains. The next day, see the Emin Minaret, visit local homes at Grape Valley and the 2,000 year old Kerez Irrigation Canals.

Days 19-20: Turpan – Kurla – Kuqa

Over the next four days, we travel along the original Silk Route through the Xinjiang Region, viewing ruins and sights largely unvisited by other tourists. We travel to Kurla and visit the ruins of the Iron Fortress. The next day, tour the ruins of Subashi, before continuing to Kuqa to visit the remains of the old City Wall.

Days 21-22: Kuqa – Aksu – Kashgar

Visit the Kyzil Thousand Buddha Caves before traveling to Aksu. The next day, arrive in Kashgar, an ancient market town and once the flourishing center of the Silk Road.

Days 23-24: Kashgar

Visit Abakh Hoja Tomb, Id Kah Mosque and Id Kah Square. The next day, explore the world's largest Sunday Bazaar and visit a livestock market, where large crowds of people with their animals gather to haggle and trade. Later, fly to Urumqi.

Day 25: Heavenly Lake day tour

Travel to Tian Chi (Heavenly Lake) and enjoy the breathtaking views of the crystal clear lake at the top of a mountain range. In the evening, enjoy a traditional meal of Uyghur Lamb Skewers.

Day 26: Urumqi – Beijing

Visit the Xinjiang Autonomous Region Museum, home to 1,000 year-old mummies. Later, fly back to Beijing.

Day 27: Beijing – US

Fly to the US, arriving home the same day or the following morning depending on flight schedules.

Departure Dates & Prices

Depart US	Arrive US	Price
27 Apr 2012	23 May 2012	\$5,490
11 May	06 Jun	
31 Aug	26 Sep	\$5,690
14 Sep	10 Oct	
28 Sep	24 Oct	

Tour departs Friday and returns Wednesday

Prices are fully inclusive from the US (see page 14)

Based on Los Angeles departures

Many other US departure points available

- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from \$4,290 (Beijing – Beijing)
- Single room supplement from \$990 (see page 10)
- Tipping payable locally US\$95 (see page 10)
- Active Paced Tour

Fully Inclusive price includes:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodations
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for US residents

Hong Kong Extension (see page 63)

Day 27: Beijing – Hong Kong

Fly from Beijing to Hong Kong and transfer to your hotel.

Day 28: Hong Kong

Enjoy a half day island tour visiting Victoria Peak, Stanley Market and Aberdeen Fishing Village. The afternoon is at leisure. (B)

Day 29: Hong Kong

Enjoy the day at leisure to further explore Hong Kong. (B)

Day 30: Hong Kong – US

Fly to the US, arriving home the same day or the following morning. (B)

From \$390pp

Land only. The flight from China to Hong Kong may be included in the cost of the international ticket depending on airline.

Book now at 1-877-993-6399 visit www.wendywutours.com or see your preferred travel agent