

Tour C – Silk Road & Shangri-la (18 Days)

Beijing, Urumqi, Turpan, Kashgar, Dunhuang, Kunming, Lijiang, Zhongdian (Gythang) and Shanghai

TOUR PRICE INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip international airfare from LAX (or SFO).
- Air and ground transfers for all included tour programs.
- Fully escorted by Chris Lee or Ping Lee.*
- Well-selected English-speaking guide in each city.
- 5-star (deluxe) and 4-star (superior first class) hotels.
- 36 meals.
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours as specified.
- Luggage handling for one bag per person.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Beijing	Beijing International Hotel (5 star)
Urumqi	Hoi Tak Hotel (5 star))
Kashgar	Barony Hotel (4 star)
Dunhuang	Grand Sun Hotel (4 star)
Kunming	Grand Park Hotel (5 star)
Lijiang	Grand Lijiang Hotel (4 star)
Zhongdian	Sightseeing Hotel (4 star)
Shanghai	Jin Jiang Hotel (5 star)

2010 Departure Dates **Tour Price (per person)**
5/25, 9/7. \$4,798 from LAX (or SFO)

Low airfare add-on from most U.S. cities is available. For land-only package (excluding international flight) deduct \$550. For single room occupancy add \$1,200.

Day 1: Depart USA

Depart the U.S. for Beijing, capital of China.

Day 2: Arrive Beijing

Arrive Beijing. Stay in centrally located (1 1/4 miles to Tiananmen Square) **Beijing International Hotel** (5 star).

Day 3: Beijing/Urumqi

Fly for Urumqi, capital city of Xinjiang Autonomous Region and the most inland city in the world. Xinjiang covers a large area where the ancient "Silk Road" passed through. Numerous historical sites, snow-capped mountains, melted snow-fed lakes, barren desert and hospitable people wearing different costumes and speaking different languages, all these make Xinjiang an exotic area. Stay in **Hoi Tak Hotel** (5 star) located in downtown. B, D

Day 4: Urumqi

This morning, we will visit the **Red Hill Park** and **Museum of Xinjiang** which displays thousand-year old mummies and discoveries along the ancient Silk Road and life style of the ethnic groups. Spend the afternoon in the exciting **International Bazaar**. B, L, D



Day 5: Urumqi/Kashgar

Take a flight to Kashgar, China's most westward city. It lies at the crossroads of the ancient Silk Road and at the edge of world's second largest Takalamakan Desert. This afternoon, we will visit the **Street of Handicrafts**, where you will witness many small workshops making things in traditional ways (visit to the Id Kah Mosque is optional). Stay in comfortable **Barony Hotel** (4 star). B, L, D

Day 6: Kashgar/Urumqi

Today's highlights in Kashgar include the fabulous **Sunday Bazaar**, **Tomb of Abakh Hoja Family** and the **Old Town of Kashgar**. Return to Urumqi and transfer to **Hoi Tak Hotel** (5 star). B, L

Day 7: Urumqi

Drive to the **South Mountain Valley** to enjoy the natural scenery of green valleys and meet the Kazak nomads. This is the chance to ride a horse if you wish (optional). B, D

Day 8: Urumqi/Turpan/Dunhuang

Leave Urumqi for Turpan by coach. As an important pass on the ancient Silk Road, Turpan offers important historic sites and unique scenery of oasis surrounded by Gobi desert. Today's highlights include the ruins of **Jiaohe City**, a World Heritage Site, which was built over 2000 years ago when the Silk Road started. The layout of streets, houses and temples are still in shape. Then we'll visit the **Karez well** - an underground irrigation system that started over 2,000 years ago and is one of the great architectural projects of ancient China after the Great Wall and the Grand Canal. There we'll visit a **home of the local people**. Then, take an overnight train (soft sleepers) to Dunhuang. B, L, D



Day 9: Dunhuang

air

Arrive Dunhuang in the morning. Today's highlight is the **Mogao Grottoes** (World Heritage Site), which stand as the largest treasure house of grotto art extant in China. Stroll on the **night market** after dinner. Stay in centrally located **Dunhuang Grand Sun Hotel**. (4 star). B, L, D

Day 10: Dunhuang

This morning, we will visit the **Singing Sand Dunes** and **Crescent Moon Lake**. You may ride a camel (optional) on the sand dunes to have a lifetime experience. The **Silk Road Museum** in the afternoon. Beautiful Silk Road Culture show is available in the evening as an option. B, L, D

Day 11: Dunhuang/Kunming

air

Fly to Kunming (via Xian or Chengdu) and stay in centrally located **Grand Park Hotel** (5 star). B

Day 12: Kunming

Kunming is a renowned city of landscape and nicknamed "City of Eternal Spring". Today's highlight is the **Stone Forest**, one of China's most remarkable nature phenomena. B, L

Day 13: Kunming/Lijiang

air

Fly to Lijiang and visit the **Old Town of Lijiang**, a World Heritage Site. Stay in **Grand Lijiang Hotel** (4 star) located at the entrance of the Old Town. B, L

Day 14: Lijiang

Drive out of the city to the mountains, where we'll take chair lifts to the **Yak Meadow of Jade Dragon Mountain**, which has rich vegetation coverage, featuring distinct and complete alpine vertical ecosystem from subtropical zone to Frigid Zone. Naxi ethnic minority culture show in the evening as an option. B, L

Day 15: Lijiang/Zhongdian (Gything)

coach

Drive on the Yunnan-Tibet Highway to the upper reaches of the Yangtze River and visit the **Tiger Leaping Gorge** and the **First Bend of the Yangtze River** and the **Shigu Town**. Beautiful mountain view en route. Continue driving to Zhongdian (now officially named Shangri-la County), which is a beautiful mountain area inhabited by Tibetans. En route, enjoy **the beautiful scenery** and visit **Tibetan villages**. Stay in centrally located **Sightseeing Hotel** (4 star). B, L, D

Day 16: Zhongdian (Gything)

More than half a century ago, British writer James Hilton wrote a novel entitled **Lost Horizon**. The novel described a place called "Shangri-la", which had snow-capped mountains, forests, gorges and

lakes, and the beautiful scenery made people linger. Now more and more evidences have shown that Shangri-la is located in this area. Today's highlights include the **Ganden Songzanlin Monastery** (the largest Lamasery outside of Tibet), **Shangri-la Old Town** and **local market** where you will visit more of the Tibetan community and learn more of Tibetan culture. B, L, D

Day 17: Zhongdian/Shanghai

air

Depart for Shanghai and stay in centrally located (adjacent to the famous Haihai Zhong Road – the commercial center) classic **Jin Jiang Hotel** (5 star). B

Day 18: Shanghai/Home

Depart Shanghai and arrive home the same day. B

*Chris Lee or Ping Lee of ChinaPlus, who will fully escort your trip, had lived in the Silk Road area for over 30 years and have traveled to almost every corner of the Silk Road in Northwestern China. They have also escorted tour groups many times to Shangri-la area.

IMPORTANT NOTES

*Abbreviations in the itineraries:

B – Western buffet breakfast; L – Chinese lunch
D – Chinese dinner; SD - Special Chinese dinner

*A few meals are not included due to flight schedules or for the convenience to have your own choice. Our past experience and feedback from tour members have approved that this arrangement is favorable to clients. For excluded meals, your tour director or guides will provide you with sufficient information for dining in your hotel or in local restaurants where various cuisines are available (Some flights offer in-flight meals.).

*The tour itinerary and hotel arrangements are subject to change in case of unexpected and unavoidable circumstances.

*The list tour prices do not include departure taxes, governmental fees, fuel surcharges, Chinese visa fees, travel insurance and gratuities. Details are described in "Terms and Conditions".

*We mostly use U.S. air carriers as our designated airlines for transpacific flights. Different groups may take different designated airlines. Low airfare add-on for departure from most U.S. cities is available. Gateway cities are not limited to LAX or SFO. Not all passengers need to connect flights in West Coast. Airline tickets upgrade is available at additional cost.

For reservation and information, please visit www.chinaplustour.com, or call us at 1-888-868-8811, or e-mail to info@chinaplustour.com.

