

Tour C – Silk Road & Shangri-la (17 Days)

Beijing, Urumqi, Turpan, Kashgar, Dunhuang, Kunming, Lijiang, Shangri-la and Shanghai

Limited to 10 – 20 Guests Each Group

Tour Inclusions

- * All intra-China flights (including airport taxes and airline fuel surcharges)
- * Ground transfers for all included tour programs
- * Deluxe and superior first class hotels
- * Comprehensive guided group sightseeing and shore excursions
- * Fully escorted by Ping or Chris Lee
- * Locally guided by well-selected guide in each city
- * 31 meals (daily full Western buffet breakfast, most lunches and dinners)
- * Group baggage handling (including tips for bellhops)

Tour Highlights

- Urumqi:** Red Hill Park, Museum of Ancient Mummies, Museum of Ethnic Groups, International Bazaar.
- Kashgar:** Street of Handicrafts Workshops, Old Residential Quarters, Tomb of Abakh Hoja Family, Sunday Bazaar.
- Turpan:** Ruins of Ancient Jiaohe City, Karez Well.
- Dunhuang:** Mogao Grottoes, Museum of Silk Road, Singing Sand Dunes, Crescent Moon Lake.
- Kunming:** Stone Forest.
- Lijiang:** Old Town of Lijiang, Black Dragon Pond, Dongba Museum and Yak Meadow of Jade Dragon Mountain, First Bend of Yangtze River, Shigu Village and Tiger Leaping Gorge.
- Shangri-la:** Ganden Songzanlin Monastery, Shangri-la Old Town, Yila Grassland.

Hotel Accommodations

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|------------|--|
| 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) |
| Shangri-la | Sightseeing Hotel (4 star) |
| Shanghai | Sheraton Shanghai Hongkou Hotel (5 star) |

2012 Tour Date: Departure Return
5/08 5/24

Tour Price: \$4,530

The prices do not include transpacific airfare. We will assist you with more flexible air arrangements at the lowest cost possible. You may choose our standard air, or take our custom air arrangement for a specific airline and the most direct routes. For details, please contact ChinaPlus.

The prices are for per person double occupancy (two persons share one standard room). \$1,116 single supplement will apply to single occupancy.

Day 1 & 2: USA/Beijing, China

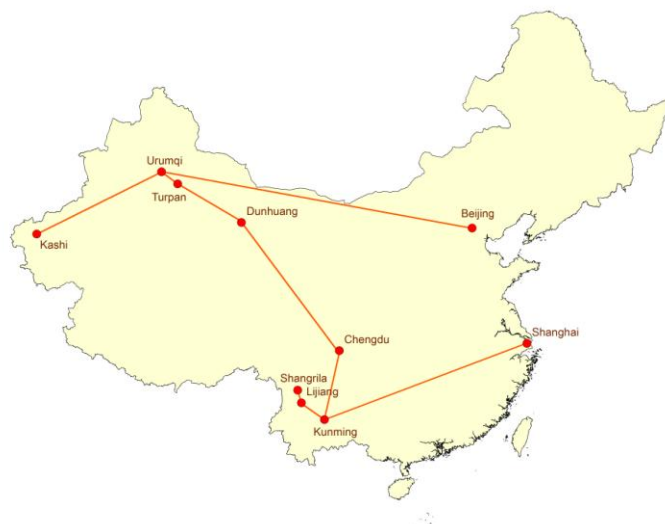
Depart for Beijing and arrive on the next day. Stay in your deluxe hotel located in the heart of the city.

Day 3: Beijing/Urumqi air

Take a flight 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 in different costumes and speaking different languages, all these make Xinjiang an exotic area. Stay in your centrally located deluxe hotel. 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. Enjoy the afternoon in the exciting **International Bazaar**. B, L

Day 5: Urumqi/Kashgar air

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 centrally located superior first class hotel. B, L, D

Day 6: Kashgar/Urumqi air

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 your centrally located hotel. B, L

Day 7: Urumqi/Turpan/Urumqi coach

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. 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. B, L

Day 8: Urumqi/Dunhuang air

Sand Dunes and Crescent Moon Lake. You may ride a camel (optional) on the sand dunes to have a lifetime experience. Fantastic evening entertainment is available as an option. Stay in centrally located superior first class hotel. (4 star). B, L, D

Day 9: Dunhuang

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. B, L, D

Day 10: Dunhuang/Kunming air

Fly to Kunming (via Xian or Chengdu) and stay in centrally located deluxe hotel. B

Day 11: 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 12: Kunming/Lijiang air

Fly to Lijiang and visit the **Old Town of Lijiang**, a World Heritage Site. Stay in your superior first class hotel located at the entrance of the Old Town. B, L

Day 13: Lijiang

Drive out of the city to the mountains, where we'll take chair lift 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 14: Lijiang/Shangri-la 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. Enjoy the **beautiful scenery** en route. Stay in centrally located superior first class hotel. B, L

Day 15: Shangri-la

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** where you will learn more of the Tibetan community and Tibetan culture, and **Yila Grassland** where you will enjoy the beautiful grassland. B, L, D



Day 16: Shangri-la/Shanghai air

Depart for Shanghai (via Kunming) and stay in conveniently located deluxe hotel. B

Day 17: Shanghai/Home

Depart Shanghai and arrive home the same day. B

***Post-tour extension to Tibet, Yangtze River Cruise or Guilin is available. Please contact ChinaPlus for details.**

Chris Lee or Ping Lee of ChinaPlus, who will fully escort your trip, had lived in the Silk Road area for over 30 years before moved to the U.S. They have traveled to almost every corner of the Silk Road in Northwestern China and are familiar with Shangri-la area as well.

***Abbreviations in the itinerary:**

B – Full Western buffet breakfast;

L – Chinese lunch; D – Chinese dinner

A few meals are not included due to time conflict with flight schedules (in-flight meals are served on some flights) or for the convenience of your own choice. For excluded meals, we will provide you with sufficient information and convenience for dining in your hotel or in local restaurants where various cuisines are available.

***The tour itinerary and hotel arrangements are subject to change under certain circumstances. Hotel of the same (or similar) class will be used in case of such change.**

***Chinese visa, travel insurance and gratuities are not included in tour price. For details, please refer to "Terms and Conditions" or contact ChinaPlus.**

To book a tour, please contact ChinaPlus at info@chinaplustour.com or 1-888-868-8811. For more information, references and testimonials, please visit our website at www.chinaplustour.com or contact us.

