

Beijing Great Wall Int'l Travel Agency

Tel:(+86)10-8446 6033 / 8446 6213 / 8446 6032 ext .801,802 ,803 Fax:(+86)10-8446 6212

15 Days Beijing-Xi'an-Lhasa-Gyantse-Shigatse-Lhasa-Chengdu-Shanghai from \$2448

Day01 Arrive in Beijing

Arrive in Beijing, the capital of China. Meet your guide at the airport and transfer to the hotel. (D)

Day02 Beijing

Begin the day's activity with a visit to **Tian'anmen Square**, the largest urban square in the world. Tian'anmen was built in 1417 and served as the entrance gate to the Imperial Palace. Move on to visit the Imperial Palace, well-known as **Forbidden City** which is the large scale construction of the palace extended from 1406 to 1420. It was the imperial palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties. 24 emperors lived and ruled China from here. You will take a rickshaw through some old **"Hutongs"**, lanes or alleys formed by lines of Siheyuan (a compound with houses around a courtyard). Then, visit **Temple of Heaven**, built in 1420 A.D., which was originally the platform to offer sacrifices to Heaven during Ming and Qing Dynasties. The buildings and parklands reflect an ancient Chinese thought of "the Heaven is round and the earth is square". Enjoy **Peking Duck** for Dinner. (B,L,D)

Day03 Beijing

Today's highlight is the visit to the **Great Wall**, one of the "Seven Wonders of the World" and a symbol of Chinese civilization. Then, drive to visit the statue-lined **Shenlu (Spirit Road)** leading to the Ming Tombs, here you can see some marvelous stone sculptures. The Ming Tombs area is for 13 deceased emperors of the Ming Dynasty. Visit the **Changling Tomb** which is the largest of the 13 as you can imagine it is quite impressive. On the way back to the hotel, stop at **Olympic Park** and **outside view** the National Stadium (Bird's Nest, no entry) and the National Aquatics Center (Water Cube, no entry), which are the main stadium of the 29th Olympiad in 2008. (B,L,D)

Day04 Beijing-Xi'an

Visit the enchanting **Summer Palace**, the largest and best-preserved imperial garden in China. As a masterpiece of Chinese landscape garden design, it integrates the natural landscape of hills and open water with manmade features such as pavilions, halls, palaces, temples and bridges into a harmonious and aesthetically exceptional whole. In the afternoon, you will visit the **Yonghe Lama Temple**, the largest and most perfectly preserved Tibetan Buddhist Lama Temple outside Tibet. It was built in 1649 as the residence of Prince Yong of Qing Dynasty, and was converted to a temple after he became Emperor moving to Forbidden City. Take overnight train to Xi'an with soft sleeper (the 1st class in China, 4 persons sharing one cabin). (B,L,D)

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Day05 Xi'an

Arrive in Xi'an in the morning, pick up from the railway station and transfer to the hotel for breakfast. Today's highlight is to visit once-in-a-lifetime viewing of the extraordinary **Terracotta Warriors and Horses**, 2,200-year-old underground army of the first feudal Emperor, Qin Shihuang. Life size terracotta figures of warriors and horses arranged in battle formations are the star features at the museum. Enjoy a characteristic **Dumpling Dinner** in local restaurant. (B,L,D)

Day06 Xi'an

After breakfast, visit **Shannxi History Museum**, the first huge state museum with modern facilities in China, and given the reputation of "bright pearl of ancient city, treasure house of China". Visit **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**, originally built in 652 A.D. in Tang Dynasty (618-907A.D.), it functioned to collect large volume of Buddhist scriptures that were taken from India by the eminent monk of Xuanzang. Then, pay a visit to the **Great Mosque**, built primarily in the Ming Dynasty when Chinese architectural elements were synthesized into mosque architecture, and it is the largest and best-preserved one of the early mosques of China. (B,L,D)

Day07 Xi'an-Lhasa

Fly to Lhasa, rightly one of the most featured and dreamt-about cities in the world, not only limited accessibility for its remoteness and its high altitude at 3,650 meters, but also the mysterious Tibetan religion. In Tibetan, Lhasa means the Holy Land or the Buddha Land. The guide will meet you at Konggar Airport, and transfer you to Lhasa city with about 1.5 hours' driving (100km). On arrival at the hotel, rest and acclimatize yourself to the local time and altitude. (B,D)

Day08 Lhasa

The first day of sightseeing starts from Lhasa's cardinal landmark - **Potala Palace**, a structure of massive portions. Its towering image has already appeared on various occasions, but your first sight of the Potala will still be an awe-inspiring moment. It takes at least a good 2-hour to visit those rooms, halls and chapels. Some 2km to the east of the Potala is the most revered religious structure and the holiest temple in Tibet - **Jokhang Temple**. Bustling with worshippers and redolent with mystery, the Jokhang is an unrivalled experience. The quadrangle of streets surrounding the Jokhang is the **Barkhor Market** - Lhasa's most interesting pilgrimage circuit. This area of the Old Town is both the spiritual heart of Lhasa and the main commercial district for Tibetans. The rest of day is free. (B,L,D)

Day09 Lhasa

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Sightsee of the Drepung Monastery, Sera Monastery and Norbulingka in Lhasa. **Drepung Monastery**, the largest and richest monastery in Tibet, was founded in 1416 by a disciple of Tsong Khapa under the patronage of a noble family and later enlarged by the Fifth Dalai Lama. Nowadays it stands as Tibet's most important and largest monastic university in Tibet. **Norbulingka Park** (Treasure Garden) was built in the 1740s during the reign of the seventh Dalai Lama. Later it was renovated and enlarged and became the Dalai Lama's Summer Palace. **Sera Monastery** is located a few miles to the north of Lhasa, is one of the three largest monasteries. (B,L,D)

Day10 Lhasa-Gyantse

Drive from Lhasa to Gyantse (at 4,040 meters above sea level), and pass by **Yamdrotso Lake** for sightseeing. Yamdrotso Lake is one of the four holy lakes of Tibet, and legend has it that if the lake ever disappears, it will mark the end of Tibet. In Gyantse, visit **Palkor Monastery**, the symbolic architecture of Gyantse. On one side of the Palkor Monastery stands a white tower - **Kumbum Stupa**. It is said that there are altogether more than 100,000 Buddha statues engraved on the tower; hence the name "One Hundred-Thousand-Buddha Tower." (B,L,D)

Day11 Gyantse-Shigatse-Lhasa

Proceed to Shigatse and visit **Tashihunpo Monastery**, the new Palace of Panchen Lama. Tashihunpo's magnificent outside may make you gasp in admiration, its inside just offers you more religious tranquility and sincerity. Then, drive back to Lhasa. Miles away from Shigatse, you can already see the gold tops of Tashihunpo Monastery shining under the sun. (B,L,D)

Day12 Lhasa-Chengdu

Take a morning flight to Chengdu, the regional capital of Sichuan Province. It is the habitat of Giant Panda, as well as known as "wonderful world of nature". Pay a visit to **Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding**, a non-profit organization for the study and protection of the giant panda, situated on the Axe Hill 10km from the north suburb of Chengdu City. Walk around **Jinli Old Street**, at the east side of Wuhou Shrine, it called "The First Street of the Shu Kingdom". (B,D)

Day13 Chengdu-Shanghai

Take a morning flight to Shanghai, know as "Paris in the East". Visit **the Bund**, at the west shore of the Huangpu River, the splendid row of early 20th century Europe buildings remains the quintessential Shanghai sight. Pay a visit to **Yuyuan Garden**, a well-restored Suzhou-style garden, which was specially built for Pan's parents as a place to enjoy themselves a tranquil and happy time in their old age. The pavilions, halls, rockeries, ponds and cloisters are unique characteristic. And also take a walk through Chenghuangmiao

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(known as Yuyuan Garden Market) built in the fifteenth century during the Ming Dynasty. It filled with antique markets and specialty stores. Enjoy a fabulous **Acrobatic Show** in the evening. (B,L,D)

Day14 Shanghai

This morning, you will visit **Shanghai Museum**, a leading attraction of the city since it opened in 1994, containing some priceless collections of paintings, porcelains and bronzes. Proceed to visit **Jade Buddha Temple**, built in 1882 to keep two jade Buddha statues which had been brought from Burma by a monk named Huigen. The two precious jade Buddha statues, one sitting Buddha and one Recumbent Buddha, are carved with whole white jade. Take some free shopping on **Nanjing Road**, a must-see metropolitan destination attracting thousands of fashion-seeking shoppers from all over the world today. (B,L,D)

Day15 Depart from Shanghai

Transfer to the hotel and prepare for boarding your homebound flight. (B)

Note: B-Breakfast L-Lunch D-Dinner

Departure Date & Prices (USD--pp)

Guarantee departure on 2 persons at least.

Tour Code	Date	Double room occupancy	Single room occupancy
S06-090410	10 Apr – 24 Apr	\$2498	\$2954
S06-090504	04 May – 18 May	\$2508	\$2964
S06-090612	12 Jun – 26 Jun	\$2482	\$2914
S06-090708	08 Jul – 22 Jul	\$2482	\$2914
S06-090802	02 Aug – 16 Aug	\$2482	\$2914
S06-090914	14 Sep – 28 Sep	\$2510	\$2964
S06-091006	06 Oct – 20 Oct	\$2510	\$2964
S06-091105	05 Nov – 19 Nov	\$2482	\$2913
S06-091209	09 Dec – 23 Dec	\$2448	\$2842

Hotel list (or the same standard):

Beijing: ***Dong Fang Hotel Beijing

Xi'an: ***Wan Nian Hotel Xi'an (3-star building)

Lhasa: ***Dhod Gu Hotel Lhasa

Gyantse: ***Gyantse Hotel

Chengdu: ***Xiyu Business Hotel Chengdu

Shanghai: ****Dorure International Hotel Shanghai

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Price Included:

- Twin sharing accommodation with buffet breakfast
- Domestic flights in economic class with airport tax: Xi'an-Lhasa, Lhasa-Chengdu, Chengdu-Shanghai
- Train tickets (overnight train with soft sleeper, daytime train with soft seat): Beijing-Xi'an
- Lunch and Dinner as mentioned in the itinerary in local good restaurant
- (first) Entrance fee mentioned in the itinerary
- English speaking guide
- All Transfers specified in the itinerary by air-conditioned van
- Travel Permit to Tibet

Price Excluded:

- International flight and airport tax
- China Entry Visa
- Tips, personal expenses
- Single room supplement
- Transfer, guide service for "day at leisure"
- Guide service during the plane, train or cruise