

**[ Tour code: GW-YR-001 ] Zhengzhou, Anyang, Kaifeng, Zhengzhou, Luoyang, Xi'an (9 days)**

**Along Yellow River:**

The Yellow River, with a total length of 5,464 kilometers, rolls forward endlessly like a huge golden dragon. Crossing central China, the river gives rise to Chinese civilization over thousands of years and symbolizes the spirit and strength of the Chinese people. The natural landscapes of the Yellow River are breathtaking and attractive, especially those in the Henan segment. Touring along the Yellow River, travelers can not only enjoy the beautiful canyons, lakes and riverside scenery of this monumental river, but also have the opportunity to visit many famous sites, experiencing the unique local customs and studying the history of China.



**Day01 Arrive in Zhengzhou**

Arrive in Zhengzhou, one of China's earliest cities and suited south of Yellow River. Be picked up at the airport and transferred to the hotel. (D)

**Day02 Zhengzhou-Anyang**

Drive to Anyang, suited at the northern tip of Henan province. Anyang is an ancient city with a history of over 3000 years and used to be one of the Seven Ancient Capitals. You will visit **Shang Dynasty Ruins (Yinxu)** which is the site of the capital of the Shang (or Yin) Dynasty around the fourteenth century B.C. Large numbers of bronze ware, tools and articles for production and daily use have been found here. A rectangular pot 1.33 meters high and weighing 875 kilograms, with beautiful stylized dragon and legendary animal patterns inscribed on its four sides, is a rare bronze object in the world. Then, pay a visit to **Wenfeng Pagoda**, built in 925 A.D. and unusually shaped, it gets larger towards the top, ending with a dagoba-shaped peak atop a flat roof. (B-L-D)

**Day03 Anyang-Kaifeng-Zhengzhou**

After breakfast, depart to Kaifeng, known as one of the six major centers of ancient Chinese civilization. You will visit **Iron Pagoda** of the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127),

**Dragon Pavilion**

– site of imperial palace of the Song and Jin dynasties and the 1400-year-old

**Xiangguo**

**Temple** which is one of the most famous Buddhist temples in China. Also on view in **Kaifeng** are ruins of the Shang Dynasty,



an important part of human cultural and historic heritage. Then, drive back to Zhengzhou. (B-L-D)

**Day04 Zhengzhou-Luoyang**

Today's highlight is to visit **Yellow River Scenic Area** which is the most ideal place to experience the culture of the Yellow River which is well-known as "the Cradle of China". Then, head for Luoyang, the capital of nine dynasties since the time of the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770-221 B.C.). Pay a visit to **Luoyang Folk Art Museum**. (B-L-D)

**Day05 Luoyang**

Whole day's excursion is to visit the **Shaolin Temple**, which is located at the foot of Mt. Songshan – the central of the five sacred mountains in China. The temple was founded in 527 A.D. by a monk, Bodhidharma. He developed a form of physical movement which is based on the natural motions of animals, hence the origin of Shaolin Kung-fu. The main scenic spots are **Permanent courtyard, the Forest of Stupas, the First Founder's Hall, the Second Founder's Hall** and **Dharma Cave**, etc. (B-L-D)

**Day06 Luoyang-Xi'an**

This morning, you will visit **Longmen Grottoes**, built in the year of 494, during the Northern Wei Dynasty. The Longmen Grottoes is one of China's three leading treasures houses of grotto art, with 2,100 grottoes. The largest Buddhist sculpture stands 17.14 meters tall. Then, take a train to Xi'an with soft seat. Be picked up and transferred to the hotel on arrival. (B-L-D)

**Day07 Xi'an**

Begin the day's activity with an once-in-a-lifetime viewing of the extraordinary 2,200-year-old **Terracotta Warriors** of China's first feudal Emperor, Qin Shihuang. On your way back to the city, stop at a mountain village and meet local residents. After lunch,



visit the superb **Shanxi History Museum**, the best of its kind in China. Visit to **Big Wild Goose Pagoda** which was built in 652 A.D. It

contains a large volume of Buddhist scriptures which were obtained from India by the eminent monk of Xuanzang. Enjoy a characteristic **dumpling dinner** at a local restaurant. (B-L-D)

#### **Day08 Xi'an**

Climb the ancient **City Wall** and visit **Forest of Steles Museum** where precious stone carvings and sculptures are kept. You will also visit 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)

#### **Day09 Xi'an-**

Be transferred to the airport for departure. (B)