

ROUTE BOOK

SILK ROAD & TIBET ESSENTIAL

(Year 2011)

1ST DAY XINING - ZHANGYE (420KM)

Breakfast:	8:00
Departure Time:	9:00
Lunch:	12:30 (Picnic)
Arrive Time:	18:30
Dinner:	Hotel



Firstly, the road runs through the town and a stretch of 23kms highway before starting with the first mountain pass of 3340m altitude. At 153kms distance from Xining, and travelling 4km go and 4km return through a track across a dense forest, we will stop to have picnic.

After lunch, we will go back to the main road. The surface is not in good conditions due to some road construction. We will finally reach the top of the mountain 3767m.



Rapeseed blossom, maybe the largest rapeseed blossom all over the world can be enjoyed during the end of June till the beginning of August,

Da Ban Mountain Sightseeing Point



12 PAELLAS, This maybe the road with the most fun especially for motor in this first day.

2nd DAY**ZHANGYE - JIAYUGUAN (252km)**

Breakfast:	8:00
Departure Time:	9:00
Lunch:	Restaurant
Arrive Time:	12:30
Dinner:	Hotel

The day's journey runs through the Gobi desert. The first part is a great oasis, that's partly artificial, it relies on groundwaters. Later the road enters a completely desert area up to final destination. After lunch, we will visit the Great Wall of China in Jiayuguan.

In the north of China, there lies a 6,700-kilometer-long (4,161-mile-long) ancient wall. Now well-known as the Great Wall of China, it starts at the Jiayuguan Pass of Gansu Province in the west and ends at the Shanhaiguan Pass of Hebei Province in the east. As one of the Eight Wonders in the world, the Great Wall of China has become the symbol of the Chinese nation and its culture.

**Jiayuguan****Pass, it**

started to be build in 1372 and finish the construction in 1539, took around 168 years. Because of the location, it's the first pass of west China in the past time.

3rd DAY**JIAYUGUAN - DUNHUANG (450km)**

Breakfast:	7:30
Departure Time:	8:30
Lunch:	Picnic
Arrive Time:	19:00
Dinner:	Hotel

Today will be a long day, the actual distance between Jiayuguan to Dunhuang is 383km which is 100% paved road. Depend on each group, normally we would like to suggest to take another adventure road. According to the one we designed, this road has about 145km off-road.



Not soon after start the off-road, there has a big river and the canyon view.

Changma Town, during the off-road period, will only pass by two villages, this is one of them.

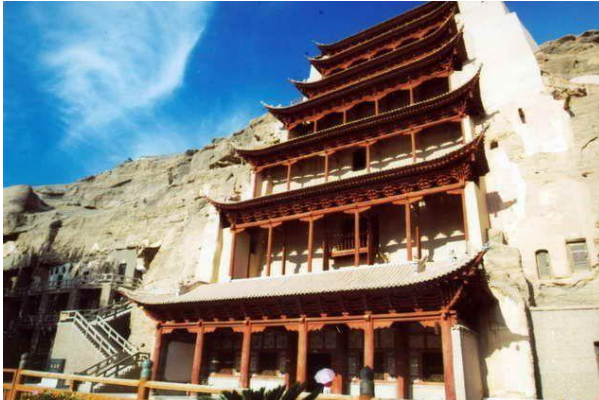


Camels, if lucky during the off-road period, sometimes also can see groups of camels.

4th DAY DUNHUANG (Relax)

In the morning we will visit the Dunes of Dunhuang, where we will do some activities such as Camel Ride excursions, quads, 4*4 or even flying ultra light aircrafts.

After having lunch people can visit Mo Gao Cave or the San Wei Mountain for a adventure trip, both place are very close.



MOGAO CAVE



Min sha Mountain



Sanwei Mountain, hence it's three peaks looks like want to fall down. Sanwei is the first in the history books record the names of Dunhuang. Especially since the monk opened first cave in Mogao, Sanwei Mountain was an important religion worships the Holy Land since the ancient times in Dunhuang.

The Silk-road Dunhuang Hotel, this will be the hotel always choosed by us during our time in Dunhuang. Not only it's the best hotel in Dunhuang, but also people can have the chance enjoy motor ride in desert beside the hotel.



5th DAY

DUHUANG-HAMI (436km)

Breakfast: 8: 00
Departure Time: 9: 00
Lunch: 12: 30 (Picnic)
Arrive Hotel: 19: 00

General speaking, the road condition is quite good. Only the middle way between Gansu and Xinjiang Province has a lot of trucks. Time to time after enter Xinjiang Province will see some small salt lakes.



6th DAY
HAMI- TULUFAN (404km)

Breakfast: 8: 00
Departure Time: 9: 00
Lunch: 13: 00 (Restaurant)
Arrive Hotel: 16: 00



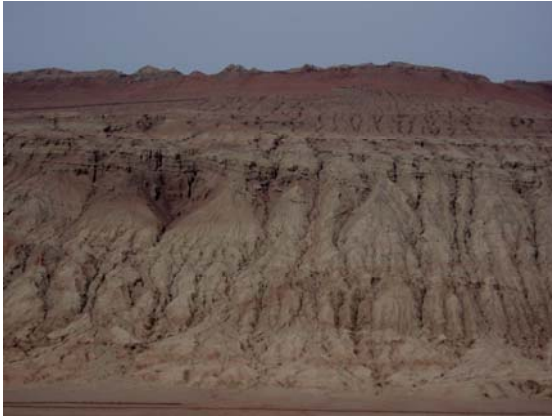
The road today almost fantastic! Paved Road with much less trucks than before. But two points need to be take care. The plain area is one of the most windy area in China, it's very normal drive in heavy wind condition, sometimes will reach class 9 even 10.



There has a lot of radar for the speed control, especially the mountainous area. Many time the speed limitation is 60km/hour, sometime even 40km/hour. The policeman are everywhere for charge the penalty.



7th DAY TURFAN (Relax)



The Flaming Mountain, the hottest place all over China. Those mountains has long years history, people can see them on the way to Turfan and it will be at our right side.

Jiao He Ruins, as one of the biggest, oldest and the best well-keep ancient construction city, it has more than 2000 years history.



How the local Uigur get the precious water? **KAREZ**. The total 5400km long Karez in Xinjiang area is one of the biggest underground irrigation works all over the world.



A survey of the Imin Minaret, a memory of the friendship between Uigur and Han, which has been built in 1771. Block with a strong Uygur style brick tower, it's the unique architectural style know as the "domestic only" .

8th DAY
TURFAN - KORLA (430km)

Breakfast: 8: 00
Departure Time: 9: 00
Lunch: 13: 00 (Restaurant)
Arrive Hotel: 19: 00

Very good road all the time, sometimes there has the road construction .But due to the speed control, we can't arrive Korla as early as we expect

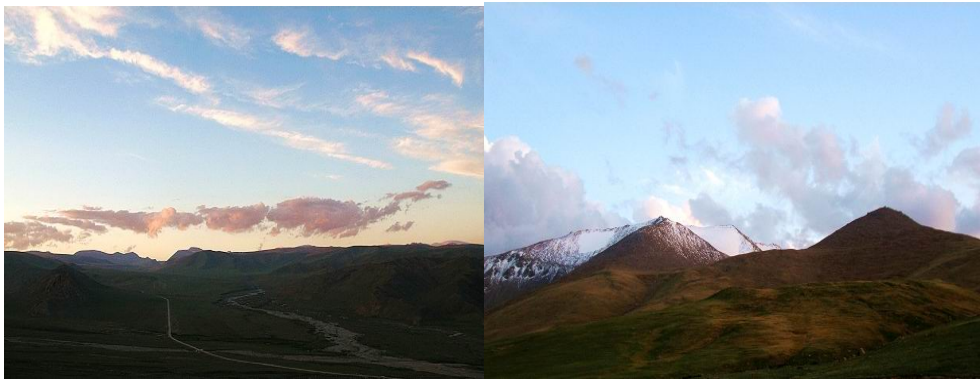


9th DAY
KORLA - RUOQIANG (444km)

Breakfast: 8: 00
Departure Time: 9: 00
Lunch: 13: 00 (Picnic)
Arrive Hotel: 18: 30

Today will be an exciting day because check from the map we will cross the TaklamagAn Desert! But it will not be a very tough day, we will only cross the west part of the desert by a quite good desert road by G218.

We won't have gasoline problem, we will have a nice picnic in the middle of the desert.



10th DAY
RUQIANG-HUATUGOU (350km)

Breakfast: 8: 00
Departure Time: 9: 00
Lunch: 13: 00 (Picnic)
Arrive hotel: 18: 30



Today will be another exciting day, we will leave Xinjiang province to Qinghai Province by cross A-erh-chin Mountain.



These has two road, old G315 and new G315. As an adventure trip, of course always we choose the tough road if can get more fun!



A-erh-chin Mountains, with average 3000 - 4000m altitude, the highest peak is 6161m, there has small glacier can be seen as well.



Asbestos Mine, the biggest asbestos mine all over china, locates the boundary between Xinjiang and Qinghai province

Once cross the A-esh-chin mountains, very soon can see the wide land of **Salt Lakes**.



11th DAY

HUATUGOU – GERMOD (487km)

Breakfast: 8: 00
Departure Time: 9: 00
Lunch: 13: 00 (Picnic)
Arrive hotel: 17: 00

Besides the Gobi view, very good road until to Germod, we will cross the west Chai Da Mu Basin, close to Huatugou mainly are the petroleum sites, close to Germod these has more and more salt lakes



12th DAY**GERMOD - DULAN(290km)**

Breakfast: 8: 30
Departure Time: 9: 30
Lunch: 13: 00 (Picnic)
Arrive Hostel: 15: 00

A very relax day with good paved roads. Still need to pay attention on the speed because always there has police control on the road.



Tuyuhun Dynasty, which has more than 1500 years history, until now in Dulan about 2000m² remains thousands of the ancient tombs.



13th DAY
DULAN-XINING (428km)

Breakfast: 8: 00
Departure Time: 9: 00
Lunch: 12: 00 (Picnic)
Arrive Hostel: 19: 00



As the last day, it's not tough with little challenge due to a part of the roads are in the mountainous area. But general speaking, the road conation is quiet good. The most exciting thing today is we are going Qinghai Lake, the most famous lake of Qinghai province.

