

[Home](#) > [Silk Road private tours](#) > 6 days Silk Road tour from Urumqi to Dunhuang



6 days Silk Road tour from Urumqi to Dunhuang

<https://windhorsetour.com/silk-road-tour/silk-road-china-short-tour>

Urumqi
Turpan
Dunhuang

Visit the three of the most important stops on the ancient China Silk Road - Urumqi, Turpan and Dunhuang, enjoy the stunning Heavenly lake and green oasis city of Turpan, learn the glorious Buddhism art Mogao Grottoes.

Type
Private
Duration
6 days
Trip code
SRA-01
Price
From £ 518 per person

Itinerary

This 6 day short tour will bring you a great deal on the ancient China Silk Road, visit the three of the most important stops of this ancient trading route - Urumqi, Turpan and Dunhuang. You will travel from the stunning Heavenly lake to the historical relics of green oasis city of Turpan, then to the magnificent treasure trove of Buddhist art - Mogao Grottoes caves.

Day 01 :
Arrive in Urumqi



You'll arrive in the city of Urumqi, which happens to be the world's most inland city. You'll be picked up from the airport and chauffeured to your hotel. From there you'll have the chance rest up and refresh in the comfort of your lodging accommodations. Once settled, feel free to take a walk into the mind-boggling Xinjiang Grand Bazaar, where you'll find everything from entertainment to local fare and unique goods from different cultures in and around the region.

Day 02 :

Drive to Visit Heavenly Lake - Afternoon Head to Turpan

You'll begin with a morning drive to visit the aptly named Heavenly Lake. This beautiful and serene body of crystal water has the ability to bring renewed energy to even the weariest of travelers. In the afternoon, you'll enjoy a drive to the oasis city of Turpan for the night. In this region of the China Silk Road, you will find a sparse population, fertile soil that boasts one of the countries greatest grape growing abilities and plenty of ancient ruins and relics to gaze upon.

Day 03 :

Day Tour in Turpan

You'll receive a full day tour of Turpan. Morning drive to visit the **Gaochang Ruins**, was once an important stop along the ancient Silk Road. Because of the war and water shortage, it was finally abandoned, but the remaining city walls, temples, houses still indicates the past glory of this city and the culture of ancient Gaochang people. Then continue the visiting to the **Bezeklik Thousand Buddha Caves** situated on the west cliffs of the Wood Valley of the Flaming Mountains. Learn about the development and history of the Buddhism in this region from the colorful murals and other precious art works. Afterwards, have a **traditional Uyghur lunch in a local village of Tuyuk Valley**. On the way back to Turpan, stop to visit **the Flaming Mountain**, where the temperature on the surface reaches 47.8 C (118.04 F) in the hottest summer, hence the name. Follow the last visit today will be **the Jiaohe Ruins**, which is currently the largest and oldest earth city in the world. The remains you see today was descended from the Tang Dynasty. Most of them are well preserved due to the high location and dry climate. Overnight at Turpan.

Day 04 :

Another Morning in Turpan - Board the Train to Dunhuang

Our morning begins with visiting the intricate **Karez underground irrigation system**. An important source of life to all of Turpan, this system of caves, reservoirs, canals and wells is an impressive 5,000 km (3100 miles) in total length. From there, you'll head to the train station drop off and take the train to Dunhuang (D2708, 12:46-16:41, around 4 hours). Upon arrival at Dunhuang, you'll be taken to your hotel. In another beautiful oasis surrounded by soul soothing sand dunes, and one of the most important cities on the China Silk Road, you can rest up and enjoy the Shazhou Nightly Market or some traditional Chinese performance art at the Dunhuang Theater.

Day 05 :

Day Exploration in Dunhuang

You'll enjoy a morning visit to the breathtaking **Mogao Grottoes**, including a visit to the Dunhuang Grotto protection and Exhibition center. Here you will witness the awe of ancient Chinese cave paintings and artwork, and also learn some history about the region. Later you will visit the beautiful **Crescent Lake and Echoing Sand Mountains**, where even a breeze in the air causes the dunes of multi-colored sand to echo with a magical, musical tune. Enjoy a camel riding.

Day 06 :

Fly out of Dunhuang, End the Travel.

You'll begin the flight home and end your travels with WindhorseTour, though the memories will last a lifetime!

Inclusions

Tour notes:

Please note prices are based in CNY.

General inclusions:

2 bottles of mineral water provided daily.

All required government taxes and fees.

Domestic travel accident insurance.

Meals allowance for your guide and driver.

3 Stars hotel (shared twin room, private bathroom and daily breakfast)

Hotel accommodation is based on double occupancy (two persons sharing 1 standard twin room with private bathroom)

All entrance tickets as noted in the tour's itinerary.

Guide fluent in English, Chinese or Japanese that is certified by the state tourism build and from the local community. (If your native language is not listed please let us know, we are certain we can assist your needs.)

Airport and/or train station pick-up and drop-off.

All domestic flight and train tickets. Economy-class for flights and soft sleeper / seat for train tickets.

Transportation will be provided via a comfortable and clean car, minivan or tourist bus depending upon the groups size.

General exclusions:

Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, internet access, fax, telephone calls etc.

Tips for your guide and driver.

Meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary.

Optional Attractions that are not specified in the itinerary.

Flight and/or railway ticket(s) to the first city of the tour and departure from the last city of the tour.

Meals not specified in the itinerary.

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