

Northern and Southern Xinjiang 16 Days Panorama Tour

(Duku Highway · Kanas Lake · Pamir Plateau)

GoChina5:NorthernandSouthernXinjiang16 DaysPanoramaTour

The most comprehensive itinerary covering both Northern and Southern Xinjiang — a no-shopping tour with full upgrades to five-star and boutique specialty hotels!

◆ **Departure Dates: Sep 9, 10, 11 2027**
Tour Code: SNX-16

◆ **Duku Highway** — Recognized as one of the most beautiful roads in China and the world. One side borders mountains while the other follows rivers, featuring dramatic and challenging terrain. The spectacular highway winds through the 3,900-meter-high Tielimaiti Tunnel, China's highest-altitude tunnel. Along the way, admire breathtaking scenery including snow-capped peaks, valleys, grasslands, gorges, cliffs, deserts, glaciers, oases, and alpine forests — a true masterpiece of nature where you can experience the majestic beauty of the Tianshan Mountains and the fascinating contrast between the north and south.

◆ **Kanas National Nature Reserve** — A true paradise on earth, often called the "Oriental Switzerland." Explore the most beautiful alpine lakes of the Altai Mountains, including Wolong Bay, Moon Bay, Fairy Bay, and Duck Marsh Lake, among other iconic scenic spots.

◆ **Pamir Plateau Snow Mountains** — "Pamir" means "Roof of the World" in Tajik. This was once the legendary route traveled by Marco Polo and the Tang Dynasty monk Xuanzang during their historic journeys through China.

◆ **Kashgar Old Town** — A must-visit landmark of Kashgar with over 2,100 years of history, and one of the largest existing clusters of earth-built architecture in the world. The Old Town serves as a living museum of Eastern and Western cultural fusion, often described as the "Living Memory of the Silk Road."

◆ **Aitigar Mosque** A magnificent Islamic architectural complex rich in ethnic and religious heritage, the Aitigar Mosque is the largest Islamic place of worship in both Xinjiang and all of China.

◆ **Karakul Lake** Karakul Lake is a glacial moraine lake situated at an altitude of 3,600 meters. It lies beneath the “Three Heroes of the Kunlun Mountains” — Muztagh Ata, Kongur Tagh, and Kongur Jiubie Peaks — which are beautifully reflected in the lake’s crystal waters, creating a stunning scene of sacred mountains and holy lake.

◆ **China–Pakistan Friendship Highway (Karakoram Highway)** Also known as the Karakoram Highway, this international route connects western China and Pakistan. It passes through the deep valleys between the Kunlun and Karakoram mountain ranges, following the ancient path of the Silk Road.

◆ **Taklamakan Desert** The largest desert in China and the seventh largest in the world — it is also the world’s second-largest shifting sand desert.

◆ **Kizil Thousand Buddha Caves** Nestled against the Mingwutage Mountains and facing the Weigan River, this is one of China’s earliest and largest groups of Buddhist grottoes, world-famous for its brilliantly colored murals.

◆ **Hemu Tuvan Village** The last settlement of the Tuvan people, known as “God’s Back Garden” and often praised as the most beautiful village in China. Hemu is surrounded by wildflowers and stunning natural scenery that looks like a fairytale come to life.

Day 1: Arrival in Kashgar — the historic and culturally rich city of western China.
Meet at the designated hotel in Kashgar. Complimentary airport transfers are available for flights arriving between 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Kashgar Airport code: KHG
(No meals provided)

Day 2: Kashgar Old Town (City Gate Ceremony), Aitigar Mosque, Handicraft Street, and Century-Old Teahouse
Explore Kashgar Old Town and enjoy the traditional City Gate Ceremony. Visit Aitigar Mosque, Handicraft Street and a century-old teahouse, where you will experience a traditional Uyghur-style afternoon tea.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 3: Kashgar → Tashkurgan
Travel from Kashgar to Tashkurgan (300 km, approximately 5 hours). Along the way, visit the China–Pakistan Highway, Gaizi Canyon, Bulunkou Sand Lake (White Sand Lake) and Karakul Lake. Enjoy panoramic views of Muztagh Ata Peak, known as the "Father of Glaciers".
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 4: Tashkurgan → Kashgar
Travel from Tashkurgan to Kashgar (300 km, approximately 5 hours). Visit the Pamir Plateau Scenic Area, including Stone City and Golden Grassland, followed by a visit to a local Tajik family to experience their traditional lifestyle and culture.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 5: Kashgar – Atushi Tianmen – Kashgar → Kuqa
Travel from Kashgar to Atushi Tianmen (approximately 70 km one way, about 1.5 hours' drive) to visit the spectacular Heaven's Gate. Return to Kashgar and take a flight to Kuqa (approximately 1 hour).
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 6: Kuqa Sightseeing:
Explore Kuqa and visit the Kizil Thousand Buddha Caves, Tianshan Grand Canyon and Kuqa Ancient Alley, discovering the region's rich history, cultural heritage and spectacular natural scenery.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 7: Kuqa → Yining
Fly from Kuqa to Yining (approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes). Visit Kazanchi Folk Street, where you can enjoy a traditional horse-drawn carriage ride, explore traditional residences, watch local folk song and dance performances, and taste handmade ice cream.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 8: Yining – Sayram Lake – Yining
Travel from Yining to Sayram Lake (approximately 150 km, 2 hours' drive). Enjoy a scenic tour around the lake, visiting Western Grassland and Genghis Khan's Commanding Platform. Specially arranged sailboat ride on Sayram Lake, with a view of the spectacular Guozigou Bridge along the way.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 9: Yining – Nalati
Travel from Yining to Nalati (260 km, approximately 4 hours). Visit Nalati Grassland, also known as Sky Grassland. Enjoy a specially arranged one-way cable car ride to admire the breathtaking panoramic views of the vast grasslands from above.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 10: Nalati – Duku Highway – Kuitun
Travel from Nalati to Kuitun via the Duku Highway (260 km, approximately 6 hours, travelling by 7-seater vehicle). Explore the northern section of the Duku Highway, including Hashilagon Pass and the Snow-Proof Gallery.
Note: Due to weather conditions, the Duku Highway is open only from early June to October 7 each year. In case of sudden closures (e.g., snow or landslides), itinerary adjustments will be made accordingly. Participants are kindly asked for understanding in such cases.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 11: Kuitun – Burqin
Travel from Kuitun to Burqin (460 km, approximately 6 hours). Visit Wuerhe Ghost City, also known as Urho Devil City, renowned for its spectacular wind-eroded rock formations.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 12: Burqin – Hemu Scenic Area
Travel from Burqin to Hemu Scenic Area (120 km, approximately 3 hours). Visit Hemu Village, Hemu River and Hardeng Viewing Platform. Enjoy a cable car ride to the summit of Yunsiao Peak at an altitude of 2,800 metres, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the spectacular region where four countries meet.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 13: Hemu Village – Jiadengyu – Kanas Scenic Area – Jiadengyu
Travel from Hemu Village to Jiadengyu (60 km, approximately 1.5 hours), then proceed to Kanas Scenic Area (30 km one way, approximately 1 hour). Visit the scenic Kanas Lake, ascend to Guanyu Pavilion (Fish Watching Pavilion) for panoramic views, and enjoy a leisurely walk along the lakeshore.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 14: Kanas – Burqin
Travel from Kanas to Burqin (120 km, approximately 3 hours). Visit the picturesque Moon Bay, Wolong Bay and Fairy Bay, followed by a visit to Five-Colored Beach to admire its spectacular sunset views.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 15: Burqin – Urumqi
Travel from Burqin to Urumqi (520 km, approximately 6 hours). Drive along the S21, Xinjiang's first desert expressway, visit Klameli Desert Park, and enjoy views of Ulungur Lake along the way.
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 16: Departure from Urumqi
Transfer to Urumqi International Airport for your departure flight. Complimentary airport drop-off services are arranged at 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m (two pickups from hotel).
Urumqi Airport Code: URC.
(Breakfast)

Tour Price:
2027 Tour Price: from CAD$5,199 per person (VIP: from CAD$5,099 per person)

Price Includes:
Accommodation in 5-star and boutique hotels throughout the tour
Meals as specified in the itinerary
Professional Chinese-speaking tour leader
Local professional guides
Deluxe air-conditioned coach
Single supplement: CAD $1750

Price Excludes:
International and domestic airfares
Travel and medical insurance
Optional activities
Visa fees
Gratuities for tour leader, local guide, and driver (USD $240 per person)
Porterage and other personal expenses

Important Notes:
Two days of the itinerary include sightseeing at altitudes of **3,200–3,500 meters**. If needed, please prepare high-altitude medication in advance and consult your family doctor.

Visa: Holders of Canadian or U.S. passports require a **China tourist visa**. Guests with a **Hong Kong Home Return Permit** do **not** need a visa. As visa regulations may change, please contact the relevant consulate for the latest requirements. The company is not responsible for denied entry due to visa or passport issues.

Most hotels do **not** offer triple rooms.

The tour price already includes a **3% discount** for cash or debit payment. If paying by credit card, the **original price** applies.

Booking Terms:

A **deposit of CAD $500 per person** is required upon registration.
Final payment must be made **at least 90 days prior to departure**.
If flight schedules cause changes to the itinerary, participants may not use this as a reason for complaint.

Cancellation & Refund Policy:

- The company reserves the right to cancel or reschedule the tour prior to departure; in such cases, all payments will be fully refunded. The company is not responsible for additional costs arising from such cancellations or schedule changes.
- If participants wish to cancel or change their booking:
  - **98 days or more before departure:** Full refund.
  - **61–97 days before departure:** CAD $500 per person will be deducted.
  - **31–60 days before departure:** 45% of total tour fee will be deducted.
  - **8–30 days before departure:** 90% of total tour fee will be deducted.
  - **Within 7 days before departure:** 100% of tour fee is non-refundable.

Effective Date: Nov 2026