



Air & Sea Travel Center

BEST GROUP TOURS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

CHINA XINJIANG SILK ROAD ADVENTURE

Cities Covered: Shanghai, Urumqi, Turpan, Liuyuan, Dunhuang & Beijing

Traveling Dates: May 28 – Jun 8, 2026 (12 Days)

Price per person: \$ 4,688 Incl. Tax & Fuel Surcharge Single Supp: \$ 900

Tour Package Includes:

- International Flight from Honolulu by Japan Airlines
- 2 Domestic Flights – Shanghai to Urumqi & Dunhuang to Beijing
- Bullet Train – Turpan to Liuyuan
- Deluxe Hotel Accommodations
- Visits to **3** UNESCO World Heritage Sites:
 - *Silk Road
 - *Urumqi Heavenly Lake of Tianshan Mountains
 - *Mogao Grottoes
- Boat Ride on Heavenly Lake
- Sand Dune Camel Ride at Crescent Moon Lake
- Roast Lamb Dinner & Show
- Gratuity for Local Tour Guides & Drivers

B: Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner |

Day 1May 28** Honolulu → Haneda

Our vacation starts by boarding an international flight bound for **Shanghai** via Haneda. Meals and snacks will be served on the plane.

Day 2May 29** Haneda → Shanghai

Shanghai is the most populous city in China. Due to its rapid growth in the last two decades, it has again become a global city, exerting influence over finance, commerce, fashion, and culture. Upon arrival, an Air and Sea Travel representative will greet us and take us to our hotel for check-in.

Day 3May 30** Shanghai → Urumqi (B, D)

After breakfast, we will take a flight to **Urumqi**, the capital city of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Upon arrival, we will transfer to a local restaurant for a **welcome dinner** before checking in to our hotel.

Day 4May 31** Urumqi (B, L, D)

This morning, we will drive to **Heavenly Lake**, located on the mountainside of Bogda Peak, the highest peak in the eastern range of the Tianshan Mountains (Heavenly Mountain), about 110 kilometers from Urumqi. At the 2013 *UNESCO World Heritage* Conference, the eastern portion of Tianshan in western China's Xinjiang Region was listed as a World Heritage Site, while the western portion in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan was added in 2016. Heavenly Lake is renowned as the "Pearl of Heavenly Mountain" for its stunning scenery and was included in the first group of national key scenic spots in 1982. We will take a **boat ride** across the lake and enjoy the culture of the Kazaks before returning to Urumqi.

Day 5Jun 1** Urumqi → Turpan (B, L, D)

After breakfast, we will visit the **Xinjiang Museum**, constructed in 1953 and showcasing a blend of Uygur and Russian architectural styles. With an exhibition area of 7,800 square meters, it is the only provincial comprehensive museum in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and houses sixty percent of the national first-class cultural relics found in Xinjiang. The museum's collection includes more than 50,000 items, featuring permanent exhibits that highlight the folk customs of twenty ethnic minorities, precious relics along the Silk Road from four to five thousand years ago to modern times, and ancient corpses. It also serves as the largest research center for cultural relics in the autonomous region. After lunch, we will continue our tour to **Turpan**, located in the eastern part of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Known as Gaochang in ancient times (from 328 AD to 1275 AD), Turpan was an important site on the Silk Road. Situated in the Turpan Basin, it is the lowest elevation in China and has recently become a tourist hotspot in Xinjiang, thanks to its unique landscape, abundant historical relics, and fertile farmland. Due to its rich production of high-quality grapes, Turpan is often referred to as the "Hometown of Grapes." Upon arrival, we will check in to our hotel after dinner.

Day 6Jun 2** Turpan (B, L, D)

Today's highlight is **Flaming Mountain**, vividly depicted in the famous classic novel Journey to the West. It is the hottest place in China, where surface temperatures can exceed 70°C (158°F). With the scorching sun directly overhead, the red mountain rocks glow, and the air shimmers in the heat, resembling raging flames, which is how it earned its name, "Flaming Mountain." To the north of Flaming Mountain lies the **Bezeklik Thousand Buddha Caves**, one of the most important Buddhist grotto relics in Xinjiang. In Uyghur, "Bizalkik" means "an exquisite house." It is believed that the caves served as the Buddhist center of the Gaochang Kingdom from the sixth century. The construction of the caves spanned the Tang, Song, and Yuan dynasties, experiencing periods of rise, prosperity, and decline. Today, about 40 caves remain relatively intact, with murals that transport you back to ancient times, showcasing emperors, empresses, and people from all walks of life. After lunch, we will visit **Tuyoq Village**, an ancient oasis village in the Taklamakan Desert. Known for its well-preserved Uyghur-style architecture and few tourists, Tuyoq is famous for its seedless grapes and is home to several ancient Buddhist grottoes, which include meditation caves adorned with Buddhist murals and frescoes. We will also explore the **Turpan Grape Valley**, renowned for its grape cultivation and stunning desert scenery. We will continue to **Visit**

a Local Uygur Family. We will check in to our hotel after dinner.

Day 7Jun 3** **Turpan** (B, L, D)
This morning, we will visit the **Jiaohe Ruins**. Jiaohe City was first inhabited by the Cheshi people from 200 BC to 500 AD and reached its peak during the Tang Dynasty (618-907 AD). However, from the 9th to the 14th century, Jiaohe City declined due to wars. By the end of the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368 AD), it had suffered significant damage from years of fighting and was ultimately abandoned. Since 1992, efforts have been underway to preserve its ruins. Jiaohe Ruins is considered the "Perfect Earthen Castle in the World." Next, we will visit the **Emin Minaret**, also known as the Su Gong Minaret, located by the Uyghur mosque in Turpan, Xinjiang. Standing at 44 meters (144 ft), it is the tallest minaret in China. After lunch, we will explore the **Karez Water System**, a 2,000-year-old underground irrigation system. Tonight, we will enjoy a special dinner featuring **Roast Whole Lamb**, accompanied by a **local music and dance performance**.

Day 8Jun 4** **Turpan → Liuyuan – Dunhuang** (B, L, D)
This morning, we will take a **bullet train** to Liuyuan and then drive to Dunhuang, a major stop on the ancient Silk Road, best known for the nearby Mogao Caves. Dunhuang was one of the four frontier garrison towns (along with Jiuquan, Zhangye, and Wuwei) established by Emperor Wu after the defeat of the Xiongnu. The Chinese built fortifications at Dunhuang and sent settlers there. The name Dunhuang, meaning "Blazing Beacon," refers to the beacons lit to warn of attacks by marauding nomadic tribes. The Dunhuang Commandery was likely established shortly after 104 BC. Located at the western end of the Hexi Corridor, near the historic junction of the Northern and Southern Silk Roads, Dunhuang held significant military importance. Upon arrival, we will visit the **Echoing-Sand Dune**, formed by the accumulation of drifting sand. Stretching about 40 kilometers from the Mogao Grottoes in the east to the Danghe Reservoir, it resembles a huge golden dragon. The dune emits a tremendous sound during gale storms and murmurs when people slide down from the mountain top, hence its name, "Echoing-Sand Dune." Next, we will see **Crescent Moon Lake**, a fascinating oasis in the desert. Encircled by the Echoing-Sand Dune, the lake is crystal clear and shaped like a crescent moon, resembling an emerald embedded in the golden sands. Despite frequent gusts and fierce sandstorms, the lake water remains clear and sweet. To enhance our desert experience, a **sunset camel ride** has been arranged. After dinner, we will check in to our hotel.

Day 9Jun 5** **Dunhuang** (B, L, D)
After breakfast, our first stop is **Mogao Grottoes**. In 366 AD, a monk passed by a mountain, and suddenly saw thousands of Buddha in a golden light. Being inspired, he started to chisel the first cave in the rock wall. This great project then lasted for ten dynasties. This is how Mogao Grottoes were formed. Now with 735 caves, murals of 45,000 square meters (11.1 acres) and 2,415 painted sculptures of clay, it is the largest sanctum of Buddhist art and content in the world and also a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. **Dunhuang Museum** is a perfect place for us to gain some knowledge about Dunhuang and the ancient Silk Road. There are more than 10000 items for us to appreciate, including some exquisite and vivid replications of the murals and sculptures in Mogao Grottoes. We will spend some time here to enjoy the history of the Silk Road. After dinner, we will return to our hotel.

Day 10Jun 6** **Dunhuang → Beijing** (B)
After breakfast, we will transfer to the Airport for a flight to Beijing, the capital of China. Upon arrival, we will transfer to our hotel and enjoy the rest of the day on our own.

Day 11Jun 7** **Beijing** (B)
Today, we can enjoy our free day and explore the city of Beijing. Or we can take the one-day optional tour to Beijing Great Wall.

Day 12Jun 8** **Beijing → Haneda → Honolulu** (B)
After breakfast, we will transfer to the Beijing International Airport for our return flight via Haneda. This ends our wonderful Silk Road tour in China.

Remarks:

1. Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees
2. Business class is available, please call your agent for the price
3. Refer to “General Condition of Air & Sea”
4. We reserve the right to modify the itinerary to ensure smooth operation
5. Tour price is subject to change according to any airfare increase, increase in government taxes, additional fuel charges, and fluctuation of the rate of exchange between U.S. and foreign currency
6. Tour price includes fuel surcharge & government taxes and fees. The tour price shown is current at the time of listing and pricing on Sep 3, 2025
7. Escorted tour with a minimum of 20 passengers
8. A special 10-year China Visa for a China group tour is available for USD 300 per person, subject to government-approved
9. Gratuity for Local Tour Guides & Drivers is included
10. It is mandatory to inform Air and Sea Travel of any existing conditions that may require medical attention or accommodations during the trip. You need to provide this information in writing in the Tour Supplemental Information section of the application. If you do not have a travel companion who can help you with your special needs, you need to talk to your agent to determine if this is an appropriate tour for you. Some tours may be too strenuous depending on your condition. Air and Sea Travel reserves the right to reject or cancel your booking. You are responsible for any cancellation penalty that this may incur.
11. All travelers, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, are welcome to travel with us and will no longer be required to provide proof of pre-departure testing, except for specific countries where COVID-19 vaccination, testing, or additional documentation is required by law. Please visit or revisit the government site to verify the travel requirements. Fully vaccinated is recommended. Vaccines combined with multi-layered preventative health and safety measures will help us provide a safe and healthy vacation environment.
12. As government regulations evolve, our health and safety protocols will evolve as needed to ensure compliance. This may mean different protocols from state to state and city to city based on local requirements.

Payment Policy:

CHECK OR CASH PAYMENT ONLY. A deposit of \$350 per person is required at the time of application. The balance is due on **Feb 17, 2026**. In the event balance payment is not made within the required time period, Air and Sea Travel Center reserves the right to cancel reservations and charge a service fee for cancellation.

Cancellation Policy:

Written notice is required for any cancellation. The cancellation fee will be as follows:

- ** **Feb 18 to Apr 3, 2026, 50%** of the total price plus any other service fee caused by the cancellation;
- ** **From Apr 4, 2026, to departure** or withdrawing during the tour shall be regarded as willingly giving up all rights concerned, **100%** of the total price, and request for other services as a substitute shall not be accepted.

**** We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance when you make your reservation****