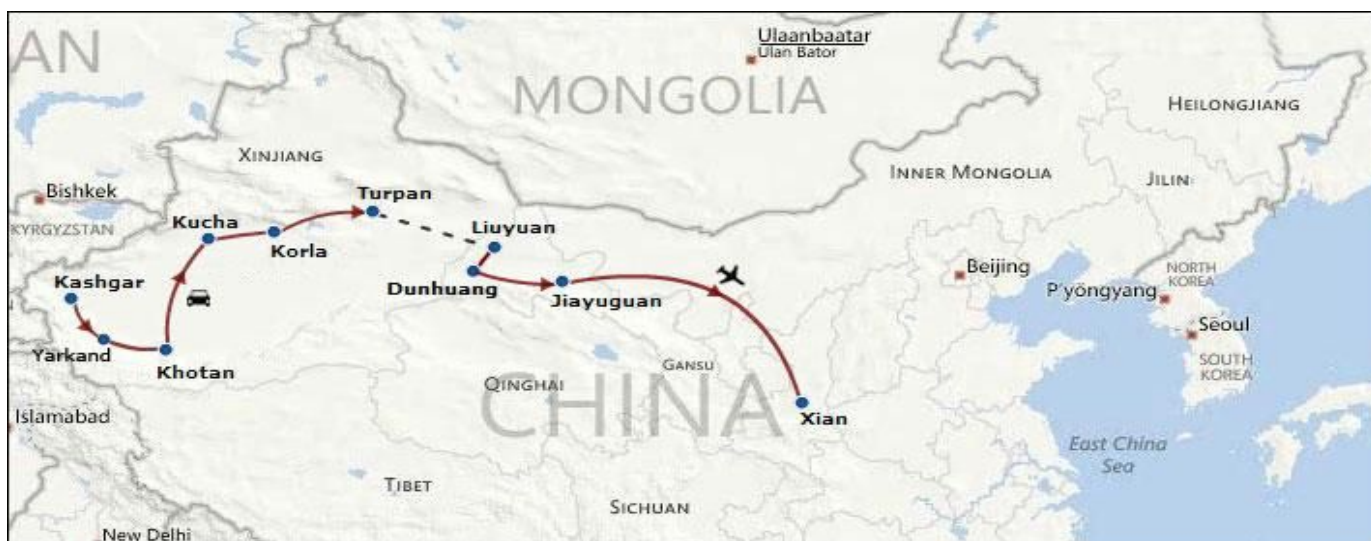




## Silk Road Kashgar to Xian 2015

This itinerary starts from the most western edge of the Chinese Silk Road city-Kashgar and ends at the ancient capital city of China-Changan (Xian) via Kara-korum and Tianshan Mountain ranges to follow Southern and Middle Silk Road in Xinjiang and Hexi Corridor in Gansu province, including sightseeing to Karakul Lake, Yarkand, Khotan, Taklamakan Desert Highway, Kucha, Korla, Turpan, Dunhuang and Jiayuguan. Trip covered by comfortable tour coach, soft sleeper train and flight.



### 2015 Departures:

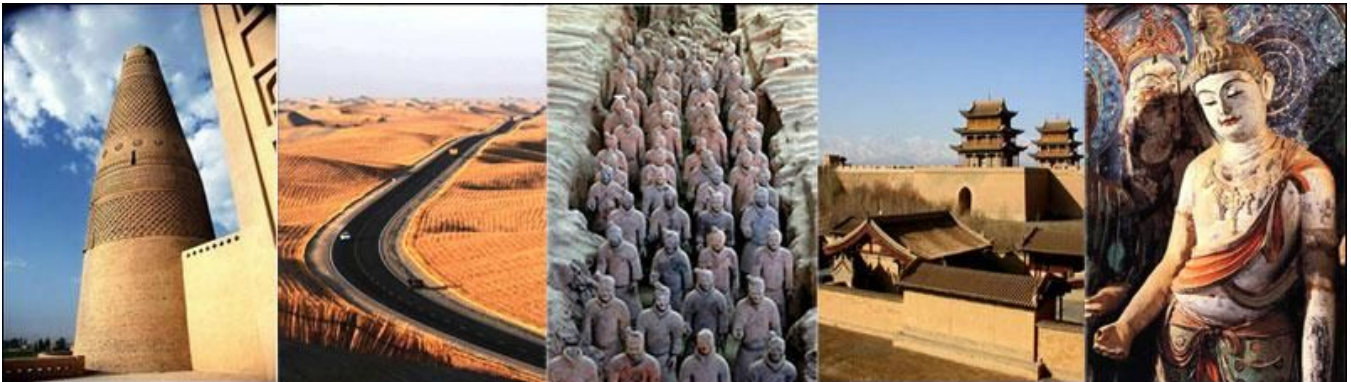
	START	END
March	20	April 04
April	03	18
April	24	May 09
May	08	23
May	15	30
June	05	20
June	12	27
July	03	18
July	10	25
August	07	22
August	14	29
September	04	19
September	11	26
October	09	24

### Cost includes:

- Twin share hotel accommodation with breakfast
- Full board meals
- A/C tour coach for all means of land transfers
- English Speaking Guide
- Entrance fees to tour sights
- Flight from Jiayuguan to Xian



- First Class overnight train from Turpan to Liuyuan
- China visa support letter



#### Day01: Arrive Kashgar

Arrive Kashgar by flight/train OR enter by land via China-Kyrgyzstan border Tourgard Pass, Erkeshtam Pass, met by guide and driver, transfer to hotel.

#### Day02: Kashgar-Karakul Lake-Kashgar

Day trip to Karakul Lake along the famous Karakoram Highway with endless photo stops along the beautiful mountain range. Karakul lake is located at the foot of Muztagh Ata (Father of ice mountain) and Kongur Mountain peaks. This is also the best place for Kyrgyz nomads stay with their yaks and camels as a summer pasture, afternoon drive back to Kashgar.

#### Day03: Kashgar

Day tour at Kashgar including Visit to Apakh Khoja mausoleum who is the Sufi leader during the 17<sup>th</sup> century and claimed himself as a prophet next only the Muhammad. visit to livestock section of Sunday Market and its main bazaar, wandering around old towns and small lanes of Kashgar behind the big buildings, afternoon sightseeing to China's first biggest mosque Eidkah and its handcraft street.

#### Day04: Kashgar-Yarkand-Khotan

Drive along the Southern Silk Road to Khotan via oasis town of Yarkand, visit to royal cemetery of Yarkand Saeed Kingdom and Musician, poetess Amannisa Khan's tomb, further drive to Khotan

which is located on the southern rim of the Taklamakan Desert in the Tarim Basin.

#### Day05: Khotan

Day tour in Khotan including visit to silk spinning and weaving family cooperatives, hand made carpet factory and Jade Bazaar at the bed of Yorongkash (White Jade) River, afternoon time to visit Khotan Museum.

#### Day06: Khotan-Kucha

Today we take the new cross Taklamakan Highway to follow the Khotan and Tarim Rivers into the heart of the desert to cross to the middle Silk Road at Kucha.

#### Day07: Kucha

Morning drive along the colourful Yardang (Yadan) land formation to explore the stunning Tianshan canyon and Kizil Buddhist Caves Temples which is located at the foot of Muzat river valley, afternoon, drive back to Kucha.

#### Day08: Kucha-Korla

Morning visit to Kucha local bazaar and Grand Mosuqe, afternoon drive to Korla.

#### Day09: Korla-Turpan

Morning cross over the Tianshan Mountain to Turpan basin, Turpan is the hottest, lowest and driest city in China, overnight at Turpan.



#### Day10: Turpan

Visit to Jiaohe Ancient City which was listed under UNESCO, Karez underground irrigation system and Emin Minaret, free time to explore the downtown of Turpan in the afternoon.

#### Day11: Turpan-Liuyuan

Visit to Astana Graveyard, Gaochang Ruins, Tuyuq village and Bezaklik Buddhist Caves, late afternoon drive to Daheyan station to take overnight soft sleeper train to Liuyuan.

#### Day12: Dunhuang

Arrive Liuyuan in the morning, drive to Dunhuang, afternoon visit to Mogao Grottoes, the world heritage site, wandering around the Dunhuang night market.

#### Day13: Dunhuang-Jiayuguan

Morning visit to Eco sand national park-Mingsha sand dunes and Crescent Moon Lake where oasis meets the desert. After lunch head out across the

Gobi Desert in a northerly direction, drive across the Gobi Desert to Anxi passing numerous well preserved watch towers enroute. Join the expressway at Anxi, late afternoon arrive at Jiayuguan.

#### Day14: Jiayuguan-Xian

Morning visit to Jiayuguan Fort which was built during the Ming Dynasty in 16<sup>th</sup> Century, afternoon drive to airport to take flight to Xian.

#### Day15: Xian

Drive east of Xian to visit the 2000 years old Terracotta Warriors. The Warriors are located in three huge vaults, also visit the Museum, return to Xian, sightseeing in the city includes the Wild Goose Pagoda, Great Mosque and Muslim Quarter. Farewell dinner tonight.

#### Day16: Xian Depart

Transfer to airport for departure flight.

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#### 2015 other itineraries:

- Silk Road Classic: Xian to Tashkent 19 days
- Wild West of China 20 days
- Nature and Culture of Xinjiang 21 days
- Journey to the west 20 days
- Textile arts of China 22 days
- Travel to China's Gobi Desert 15 Days
- Kyrgyzstan & Xinjiang Tour 14 days

Silk Road Adventures China Team

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