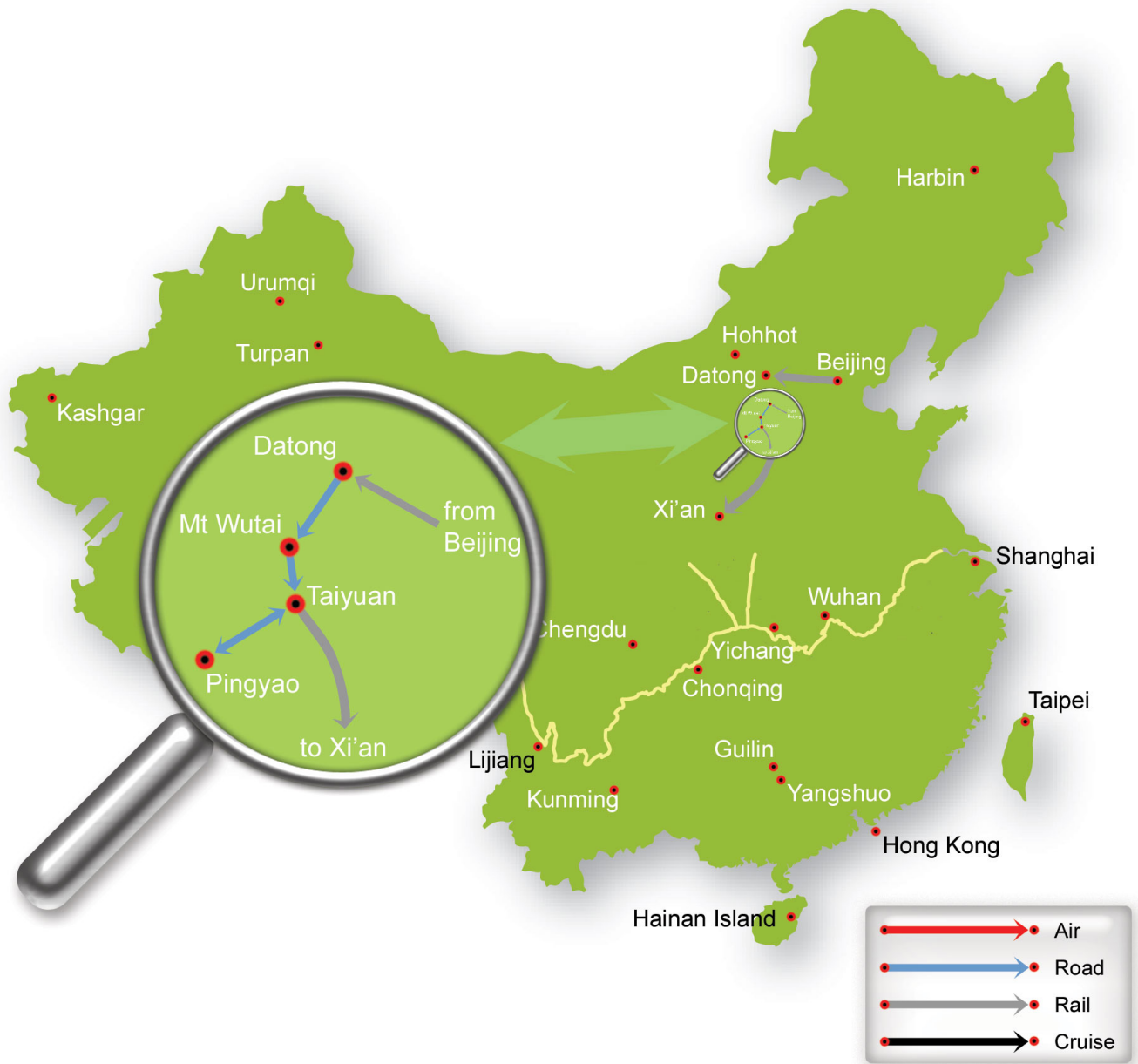


BUDDHIST PILGRIMAGE TOUR



Beijing - Datong - Mt Wutai - Taiyuan - Pingyao - Xi'an

After beginning in majestic Beijing, your pilgrimage tracks west by rail to Datong where you'll explore the stone carvings of the Yungang Grottoes. Next you'll journey to the magnificent Mount Wutai, before discovering the Hanging Temple on Hengshan Mountain. You'll also visit the ancient cities of Taiyuan & Pingyao to explore the well-preserved dwellings and architecture that dates back to 827BC. Xi'an is your last destination where you'll see some interesting attractions including the amazing Terracotta Warriors.

Duration	11 Days, 10 Nights
Route	Beijing - Datong - Mt Wutai - Taiyuan - Pingyao - Taiyuan - Xi'an
Fitness Level	Average
Tour Price	From AU \$2,019 per person - twin share 4-Star Hotels
Inclusions	10 nights accommodation with Breakfast (B), Lunches (L) & Dinners (D) as per the itinerary, accredited English-speaking tour guide, transportation for all specified transfers & tours, 2 soft sleeper train tickets, entry fees to shows & attractions as per the itinerary.
Exclusions	International airfares & taxes, visa application fees, personal expenses such as telephone, dry cleaning, taxi fares etc, gratuities to guides and drivers, optional activities, shows, meals or any items denoted by ** throughout the itinerary

Suggested Itinerary:

- Day 1 On arrival to Beijing Airport, you'll be met by your guide and transferred to your hotel. Please note no meals have been arranged for this day.
- Day 2 This morning you'll visit Tiananmen Square and tour the amazing Forbidden City - headquarters of the Imperial Emperors for more than 500 years. After lunch visit the tranquil settings of the Temple of Heaven and time permitting, you can take in some retail therapy at the Silk Street Markets. In the evening partake in a sumptuous Peking Duck dinner, which is one of China's most famous signature dishes. (BLD)
- Day 3 Today you'll journey to the Great Wall of China and be overwhelmed as you walk along one of the greatest man-made structures in the world. You'll also visit the Ming Tombs in the Shisanling Forest, resting place for 13 of the Ming Dynasty emperors. In the evening you have an option** of attending the widely acclaimed Kung Fu Show. (BL)
- Day 4 After breakfast you'll visit the Beijing Olympics site to stroll around the main venues such as the Birds Nest and Water Cube and then on to the magnificent Summer Palace retreat and a boat trip on Kunming Lake. This afternoon you'll board a soft sleeper train for Datong where you'll be met by your guide and transferred to the hotel. (BL)
- Day 5 In the morning visit the incredible Yungang Grottoes, the site of China's largest and oldest Buddhist stone sculpture collections. The grottoes run for more than a kilometre with an estimated 50,000 carvings adorning the rock faces. In the afternoon visit the Huayan Temple and the Nine Dragon Screen. (BL)
- Day 6 Transfer to Mount Wutai, which is one of the most famous Buddhist mountains in China. With the highest of its 5 peaks reaching 3,058 metres, it's earned the title of "Roof of North China". Also visit the gravity defying Hanging Temple of Hengshan Mountain, which was built some 1400 years ago. Later you'll check-in to your Hotel at Mt Wutai[^]. (BL)
- Day 7 Today is an extensive tour of the Temples on Mt Wutai, which were built as far back as the Eastern Han Dynasty. With construction spanning across several dynasties, expect to see varying styles that have made Mt Wutai a popular centre for Buddhist activities. After lunch you'll transfer to Taiyuan - the capital city of the Shanxi Province. (BL)
- Day 8 Depart this morning on a journey to Pingyao Ancient City, which is only 100 km away from Taiyuan. Pingyao has retained its original condition of well-preserved residences and its magnificent barbican gates that were built around 800 BC. Later you'll return to Taiyuan and board an overnight soft sleeper train to Xi'an. (BL)

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- Day 9 On arrival in Xi'an, you'll be met at the railway station by your guide and transferred to the hotel for breakfast. Then you'll tour the City Wall, Drum Tower and Shanxi History Museum, which is one of the finest in China. You'll also stroll through the old streets of the Muslim town before taking an interesting tour of the Grand Mosque. (BL)
- Day 10 The highlight of today's tour is one of China's most amazing archaeological wonders - the Terracotta Warriors. Marvel as you study the 6,000 plus life-sized clay soldiers and their horses. Later you'll visit the large Wild Goose Pagoda and in the evening enjoy dinner whilst being entertained by the colourful performance of the Tang Dynasty Cultural Show. (BLD)
- Day 11 Checkout of the hotel and transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

Important

^Mt Wutai area does not have 5-Star Hotels, only 4-Star Hotels. Please note that public holidays & seasonal demand directly affect availability, fares & accommodation pricing. To enable us to refine your travel plans and provide you with an accurate quotation, please send us some key details via our Enquiry Form. Prior to making a booking, please visit our Terms & Conditions web page to view our policies related to travel in China. We strongly recommend that you purchase Travel Insurance prior to your departure to safeguard against unforeseen events. LetsdoChina.com is a registered Safe Travel Charter Partner with the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and is an authorized agent to issue travel insurance to our Australian clients. Visit our Quick Quote site where you can also purchase an online policy. For further information, please go to our Travel Insurance web page and also find other useful links regarding advice on safe travel practices.