10-Day Southern Xinjiang Grand Loop

Kashgar → Tashkurgan → Hotan → Alar → Kuqa



A southern Xinjiang journey from old-town Kashgar to Pamir lakes, oasis towns, desert roads and Kuqa's Silk Road heritage, with an extra stage to ease the desert crossing.

This source itinerary is a point-to-point route despite its "loop" name. Start in Kashgar and finish in Kuqa; any return to Kashgar or Urumqi is separately arranged.

9 nights are planned. Hotel accommodation, vehicle, guiding language, meals, tickets and price are included only as stated in your written quotation.

A starting point for your own journey. No fixed public price.

1

Kashgar

Arrive in Kashgar and settle in



Carved wooden doors along an old-town lane in Kashgar

Meet your arranged driver at Kashgar airport or railway station and transfer to your hotel. Use the day to rest after traveling. If time allows, take an independent evening look around the old town, a local night market or a restaurant.

Arrival sightseeing and meals are optional. Send your arrival details so we can agree the pickup and any extra activities.

Proposed overnight: Kashgar

2

Kashgar

Old-town streets, crafts and a tea-house pause



Carved wooden doors along an old-town lane in Kashgar

Explore Kashgar Old Town’s lanes, wooden doors and everyday street scenes. Discuss a visit to Xiangfei Garden, artisan streets and a traditional tea house, choosing stops around your interests and available time. Leave room for walking, photographs and conversations with your guide.

Admission and guiding arrangements are confirmed in the quotation. Take photographs respectfully and ask before photographing people.

Proposed overnight: Kashgar

3

Kashgar → Tashkurgan

White Sand Lake, Karakul and Pamir mountain views



Karakul Lake with the Muztagh Ata mountain backdrop in Xinjiang

Follow the Karakoram Highway toward the Pamir Plateau, stopping where practical for White Sand Lake, Karakul Lake and views toward Muztagh Ata. Continue to Tashkurgan and settle into the highland town in the evening.

Altitude rises along the route; keep the pace gentle. Access, any required permits and scenic stops must be confirmed for your nationality, dates and road conditions.

Proposed overnight: Tashkurgan

4

Tashkurgan

Highland roads, wetlands and the Stone City



Ruins of the Stone City at Tashkurgan

Choose a Tashkurgan-area outing with stops such as Panlong Ancient Road, Taheman wetlands, the Stone City and Golden Grassland. Explore the mountain and wetland setting at a pace suited to your party, with the final order based on that day’s conditions.

Panlong Road and other stops depend on weather, road access and applicable restrictions. This is a proposed selection, not guaranteed access to every location.

Proposed overnight: Tashkurgan

5

Tashkurgan → Kashgar

Return along the Pamir highway



Karakul Lake with the Muztagh Ata mountain backdrop in Xinjiang

Return from Tashkurgan to Kashgar, taking selected lake, mountain or roadside photo breaks when conditions and light allow. Settle back into the city and keep the evening free for a local restaurant or independent time.

This is a long return-drive day. Border-area access and the stopping points follow the confirmed plan; no fixed arrival time is promised.

Proposed overnight: Kashgar

6

Kashgar → Yecheng → Hotan

Into the oasis towns and Hotan’s market life



Entrance to the jade market centre in Hotan

Continue through the Yecheng direction toward Hotan, with road breaks and time to settle into the agreed overnight location. If reaching Hotan early enough, discuss its night market, jade-culture area or local food for a first look at oasis-city life.

The overnight location follows the actual drive and hotel resources. Market visits depend on arrival time; meals, jade purchases and shopping are personal expenses.

Proposed overnight: Hotan / Yecheng area

7

Hotan → Alar / Kuqa direction

Taklamakan desert-road scenery



Sand dunes along the Tarim Desert Highway in Xinjiang

Follow the confirmed Taklamakan desert-road route from Hotan, with scenery of sand, gravel plain, oasis edges and occasional poplar areas. Break the crossing at the agreed overnight stop around Alar or the Kuqa direction rather than promising one fixed town regardless of conditions.

This is a long transfer day. The exact road and overnight stop are agreed before booking; the source leaves this stage flexible.

Proposed overnight: Alar / agreed desert-road stop

8

Alar / desert-road stop → Kuqa

A gentler arrival in the ancient Kucha area



Rocky landscape at the entrance to Kuqa Grand Canyon

Continue to Kuqa and settle into the city. If time allows, walk around the old-town area, see the exterior of Kuqa Palace or enjoy local food independently. Keep the rest of the day flexible after the desert-road transfer.

This day can be shortened to rest if the previous stage was tiring. Palace interior admission and any guided city visit require confirmation.

Proposed overnight: Kuqa

9

Kuqa

Canyon landscapes and ancient Kucha heritage



Rocky landscape at the entrance to Kuqa Grand Canyon

Plan a selected visit to the Tianshan Mysterious Grand Canyon, Kizil Caves and Kuqa Palace area. The day links canyon scenery with the Buddhist and Silk Road heritage of ancient Kucha, with the visit order chosen around reservations and driving distances.

Scenic opening, cave access and interpretation are confirmed for the day. The final proposal states which sites and tickets are covered; all visits are not unconditional guarantees.

Proposed overnight: Kuqa

10

Kuqa / Urumqi connection

Departure from Kuqa or an agreed onward connection



Rocky landscape at the entrance to Kuqa Grand Canyon

Transfer to the airport or railway station according to your confirmed departure. If your onward journey requires Urumqi, discuss the domestic flight or rail connection in advance so that the timing is realistic.

Kuqa-Urumqi and other onward tickets are separately arranged. Urumqi is an optional transport connection, not a same-day road transfer promised by this itinerary.

Proposed overnight: No overnight stay

Clear arrangements, before you book

To agree in your quotation

- Itinerary planning and trip assistance for the agreed private route.

- Local vehicle and airport or station transfers only as itemized in the individual quotation.

- Driver-guide or licensed-guide arrangements in the language agreed before booking; an English-speaking guide is not automatically included.

- Entrance tickets, local scenic transport and any permit assistance only where expressly itemized; eligibility and access require confirmation.

- Advice on overnight locations, road stages and practical timing; final arrangements are confirmed individually.

Separately priced or excluded

- International and domestic flights or rail tickets to, from or within Xinjiang, unless separately itemized.

- Hotel accommodation unless expressly included in your quotation; the planned nights do not imply prepaid hotels.

- Personal purchases, additional meals, drinks, tips and any optional activity not listed as included.

- Personal travel insurance, single-room supplements and unconfirmed upgrades or additional nights.

- Extra costs caused by weather, road closures, scenic restrictions, itinerary changes or personal circumstances, subject to the agreed booking terms.

The final written proposal is the complete service list. Availability and any applicable local charges are confirmed before booking.

A few useful answers

Is this a private tour?

This is a suggested private itinerary for your own party. Dates, pace, vehicle, guiding language, hotels, tickets, meals and price are agreed in an individual written proposal.

Are hotels and meals included?

9 overnight stays are planned. Hotel accommodation is not automatically included; the quotation states the properties, rooms and meals being booked. No fixed number of meals is promised.

Which vehicle and guide will we have?

Vehicle choice follows your party size, luggage and budget. Gallery images are examples, not guaranteed models or local hotels. Guiding language and service scope must be agreed; an English webpage does not imply an English-speaking guide is included.

Are tickets and local transport covered?

Only the entrance tickets, cable cars, scenic shuttles and activities specifically itemized in your quotation are included. Entry slots, local services and optional experiences depend on availability.

A few useful answers

Can I change the route or slow it down?

Yes. Tell us your interests and walking preferences. Fewer stops, longer stays or extra nights can be proposed, with any changes to services and price confirmed before booking.

How do arrival and departure work?

Send your flight or train details before purchasing tickets. We agree transfers and realistic connection buffers around the route. Onward tickets and extra nights are separately arranged unless explicitly included.

Will every mountain road and attraction be accessible?

No. Seasonal roads, weather, reservations and local restrictions can change the route. For Pamir and other restricted areas, access and any required permits must be confirmed for your nationality and dates; assistance does not guarantee approval.

Are the road stages suitable for everyone?

Xinjiang distances are substantial and some routes include highland travel. Discuss age, mobility and altitude concerns before planning. We can shorten visits or add nights; connection times and driving estimates remain subject to road conditions.

Let’s make it your journey.

Why choose Wukong China Travel

- A private plan shaped around your dates, interests and preferred pace.

- Clear written arrangements for accommodation, transport, guiding and tickets.

- Direct communication while choosing and confirming your journey.

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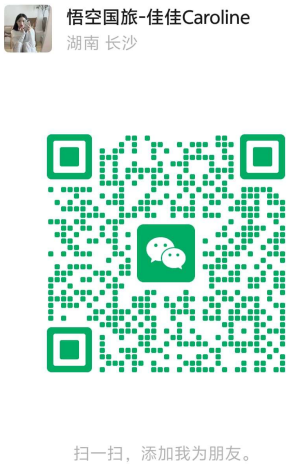

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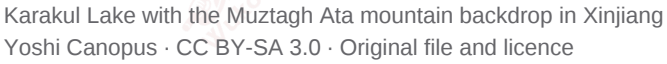

Karakul Lake with the Muztagh Ata mountain backdrop in Xinjiang
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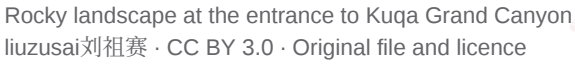

Rocky landscape at the entrance to Kuqa Grand Canyon
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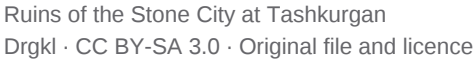

Ruins of the Stone City at Tashkurgan
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Entrance to the jade market centre in Hotan
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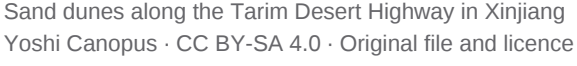

Sand dunes along the Tarim Desert Highway in Xinjiang
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