8-Day Xinjiang: Ili Grassland Loop

Urumqi → Sayram Lake → Yining → Xiate → Tekes → Kuerdening → Nalati → Kuitun



Sayram Lake, Ili's forested valleys and Nalati's grasslands, linked by mountain-road scenery when conditions allow. A private route focused on western Xinjiang's open landscapes.

The source suggests May-August for grassland travel, but flowers, pasture conditions and seasonal Yizhao/Duku road opening vary. Confirm the practical route for your dates.

7 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

Urumqi

Arrive in Xinjiang and take it easy



A minaret and colourful facade at Urumqi International Grand Bazaar

Meet your arranged driver at Urumqi airport or railway station and transfer to your hotel. Rest after your journey and prepare for the road trip ahead. If your arrival allows, explore the International Grand Bazaar, a local restaurant or a museum independently.

Arrival sightseeing is optional. Museum reservations and any guided activity are confirmed separately.

Proposed overnight: Urumqi

2

Urumqi → Sayram Lake

A full day toward the alpine lake



Blue water and open shore at Sayram Lake

Leave Urumqi for Sayram Lake, taking breaks along the northern Xinjiang road journey. On arrival, enjoy a selected lakeside circuit or viewpoints for the lake, grassland and mountain backdrop. Keep the day realistic for the transfer distance.

The exact lake-area overnight location, circuit and scenic transport are confirmed before booking. This is a long driving day.

Proposed overnight: Sayram Lake area

3

Sayram Lake → Yining

Guozigou views and Six Star Street



Blue water and open shore at Sayram Lake

If the schedule allows, enjoy a little more time near Sayram Lake before continuing to a Guozigou Bridge viewing area. Reach Yining and choose Six Star Street, Kazanqi or local food for a relaxed introduction to the city.

Viewpoints and city stops are a selection, not a fixed promise to cover all areas. Entry, guiding and any paid experiences are agreed separately.

Proposed overnight: Yining

4

Yining → Xiate → Tekes

Seasonal mountain roads and the Xiate valley



Mountain-valley scenery in Xiate, Xinjiang

Travel toward Xiate via the Yizhao Road when it is open and suitable for the party and vehicle. Enjoy mountain, meadow and valley scenery with walking adapted to your fitness. Continue to Tekes for the evening.

Yizhao Road is seasonal and weather dependent. A practical alternative route is agreed when it is closed; a lengthy hike is not assumed included.

Proposed overnight: Tekes

5

Tekes → Kuerdening

A day among forest and valley scenery



Forested valley scenery at Kuerdening in Xinjiang

Travel from Tekes to Kuerdening for forest, grassland and Ili-valley scenery. Select viewpoints, photographs and gentle walks around your interests, with a less hurried day than the main transfer stages. Stay in the agreed valley-area accommodation.

The specific overnight location and scenic transport are confirmed according to available hotels and the next day's route.

Proposed overnight: Kuerdening / Gongliu area

6

Kuerdening → Nalati

Grassland viewpoints and pasture scenery



Rolling grassland at Nalati in Xinjiang

Continue to Nalati and explore the selected grassland area, such as Air Grassland or the valley grassland, according to season, fitness and your agreed tickets. Leave time for photographs and manageable walks. Riding can be discussed as an optional activity.

Riding, additional grassland zones and local transport are not automatically included. Grassland conditions and the chosen route vary by season.

Proposed overnight: Nalati

7

Nalati → Duku north → Kuitun

Mountain-road views and Dushanzi Canyon



Rolling grassland at Nalati in Xinjiang

When the road is open, travel along the northern Duku section toward Dushanzi Grand Canyon, with mountain and grassland views en route. Continue to Kuitun after the agreed canyon visit.

Duku access is seasonal and weather dependent. A replacement route is confirmed if closed; allow a full transfer day rather than a guaranteed arrival time.

Proposed overnight: Kuitun

8

Kuitun → Urumqi

Return to Urumqi and depart



A minaret and colourful facade at Urumqi International Grand Bazaar

Return from Kuitun to Urumqi and transfer to the airport or railway station according to your confirmed connection. If time allows, fit in a short independent bazaar visit or souvenir stop.

Book the departure only after the road-transfer buffer is confirmed. A short city stop may need to be omitted if the drive is delayed.

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?

7 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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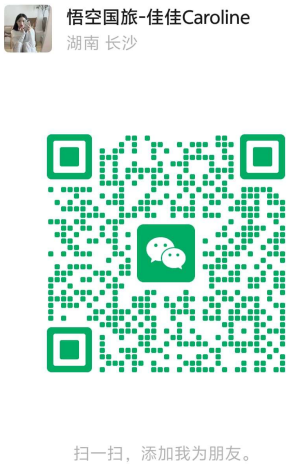

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https://wukongchinatravel.com/8-day-xinjiang-ili-grassland-loop/

Destination photo credits

Photos illustrate the destination across seasons. Exact views and conditions vary. Images were resized and cropped for layout.

Rolling grassland at Nalati in Xinjiang
Yoshi Canopus · CC0 · Original file and licence

Blue water and open shore at Sayram Lake
Fumikas Sagisavas · CC0 · Original file and licence

Mountain-valley scenery in Xiate, Xinjiang
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Forested valley scenery at Kuerdening in Xinjiang
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