

Full Itinerary

WALKING THE GREAT WALL EXTENSION TO CHINA



TALK TO OUR WELL
TRAVELLED TEAM OF
EXPERTS

0844 3350 197

Monday to Friday 09:00 - 18:00
GMT



JOURNEY SNAPSHOT

ACTIVITY LEVEL:

Level 3

DESTINATION:

Walking the Great Wall Extension To China

DURATION:

6 days / 5 nights

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Please arrange your flights to arrive into Beijing Airport [PEK] on Day 1 and depart on Day 6

PICKUP LOCATION:

Beijing Airport [PEK]

OVERVIEW

24 - 29 Oct, 2026

Enjoy the dramatic scenery as we hike sections of The Great Wall of China - one of the seven wonders of the medieval world. The date listed above is for our scheduled group departure. If you'd prefer to travel privately with friends or family, we'd be delighted to arrange a bespoke tour on your preferred dates. Just contact us via email and we'll take care of the rest.

The Great Wall of China stretches some 6,000km across the country, from the Gobi Desert in the West to the crashing waves and rocks of Shanhaiguan in the East. One of the seven wonders of the medieval world, it is one of the most iconic sites known and can even be spotted from space!

Whilst some sections have been remodelled, rebuilt and improved over the years, there are many that are wild and natural as the wall snakes its way through the countryside, up and down the hills and through the villages. Climbing through the different vegetation zones and reaching the peak of this natural phenomenon, will leave you with a sense of achievement quite like no other.

Starting in Beijing visiting the sights of the city, we then head out of the hustle and bustle to the quiet villages and countryside for our walks on the Great Wall. Over our 6 day trip, we'll be exploring different sections of the wall in Beijing, Gubeikou and Jinshanling. Pack your hiking shoes for a once in a lifetime experience along the Great Wall of China!

ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAY 1 - Back to Beijing

DAY 2 - First Steps on the Great Wall

DAY 3 - Huangyaguan to Gubeikou

DAY 4 - Tai Chi & Trek to Jinshanling

DAY 5 - Summits & Celebrations

DAY 6 - Goodbye to China and Home

FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - BACK TO BEIJING

You will arrive into Beijing by train, where you'll transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is yours to relax or explore at leisure.

This evening, enjoy a Welcome Dinner with your Big Journey Company Tour Director, who will brief you on the exciting adventure ahead.

Included meals: Welcome Dinner

Accommodation: New World Hotel, Beijing (or similar)

DAY 2 - FIRST STEPS ON THE GREAT WALL

We check out after breakfast and make our way to Huangyaguan to begin our hikes along one of the world's most iconic sites – the Great Wall of China.

The Great Wall is a series of defensive fortifications built from stone, brick, tamped earth, wood and other materials. Stretching east to west across China's historic northern borders, it once protected the empire from raids and invasions. The earliest sections date back to the 7th century BC, while most of what stands today was rebuilt and strengthened during the Ming Dynasty. A 2009 survey estimated the Ming-era structure to be an astonishing 8,851.8km in length.

Today, we begin our trek from Taiping Zhai to Huangyaguan, following dramatic ridgelines and ancient stones that have witnessed centuries of history. The full hike will take around 6 hours, with an elevation gain of more than 1,000m, offering breathtaking views and an incredible sense of achievement.

For those who would like a shorter adventure, there is an alternative 2-hour walk available, involving approximately 275m of ascent, still offering beautiful landscapes and a taste of the Wall's grandeur.

After our hike, we settle in for the night at Minghe Guest House, a welcoming, family-run property—the perfect place to relax after a rewarding day on the Wall.

Distance: approx 5 km / 5-6 hours walking.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Minghe Guest House (or similar)

DAY 3 - HUANGYAGUAN TO GUBEIKOU

After breakfast, we transfer to Gubeikou to continue our adventure along the more remote and rugged stretches of the Great Wall of China.

This section, often referred to as the “wild Great Wall,” has remained largely unrestored, offering an authentic look at the Wall in its original state. Weathered stones, dramatic vistas, and peaceful surroundings make this a truly memorable hike, away from the crowds.

We spend the day walking along this historic pathway, tracing its winding route over mountain ridges and through sections where time has softened the Wall's once-formidable structure. The scenery here is spectacular—an inspiring blend of nature and ancient engineering.

This evening, we overnight at Yeshufang, a simple, family-run inn in East River Village.

A stay here offers a wonderful opportunity to interact with local villagers and gain a deeper appreciation of everyday life in rural China—an experience that feels truly authentic and memorable.

Distance: approx 7 km / 5 hours walking.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Yeshufang Guest House (or similar)

DAY 4 - TAI CHI & TREK TO JINSHANLING

We begin our morning with a traditional Tai Chi class, a calming introduction to this ancient Chinese martial art that focuses on balance, breathing, and gentle movement. It's a peaceful way to start the day, surrounded by beautiful rural scenery.

After breakfast, we set out on a full-day hike from Gubeikou to Jinshanling, following another magnificent stretch of the Great Wall of China. This route offers a captivating mix of both unrestored and reconstructed sections, giving insight into the Wall's evolution over the centuries.

As we make our way along the ridgelines, enjoy sweeping views of the valleys and watchtowers that stretch into the distance — a remarkable reminder of the endurance and scale of this ancient wonder.

This evening, we settle in at the Jinshanling Hotel, where you can relax and unwind after a rewarding day on the Wall.

Distance: approx. 13 km / 7-8 hours walking.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Jinshanling Hotel (or similar)

DAY 5 - SUMMITS & CELEBRATIONS

We set off this morning for a hike from Jinshanling to the Simatai entrance, enjoying one of the most scenic stretches of the Great Wall of China. This route features a mix of restored and wild sections, offering breathtaking panoramas and a final chance to fully appreciate the majesty of this ancient wonder.

In the afternoon, we transfer to Beijing Tower for an additional hike. This section is more challenging, but the rewarding views from the top are truly unforgettable.

Following our adventures, we return to the Jinshanling Hotel for our final evening together. Tonight, we gather for a Farewell Dinner, sharing stories and celebrating the incredible journey we've enjoyed along the Great Wall.

Distance: approx. 7 km / 5 hours walking. Afternoon Beijing Tower is roughly 4km / 4-5 hours walking.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Farewell Dinner

Accommodation: Jinshanling Hotel (or similar)

DAY 6 - GOODBYE TO CHINA AND HOME

We enjoy a last breakfast together before heading home to tell everyone about our Adventures on the Great Wall of China.

You will be transferred to the airport to catch your flights home.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: None

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Meet & Greet at Beijing Airport [PEK] on arrival
- Transfers included (subject to arriving/departing at the designated airport and staying at the tour hotel on the official tour dates)
- Accommodation as detailed in the itinerary
- Transport in an air-conditioned deluxe vehicle
- Meals as detailed in the itinerary
- All activities, visits and excursions as detailed in the itinerary
- English speaking tour guide
- Transport of 1 main large bag from one hotel to the next
- Safety communication equipment
- Water during hikes
- Tour Director from The Big Journey Company as well as the local tour guide (subject to minimum group size being reached.)

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- ATOL Protection
- Economy flights into Beijing Airport [PEK] on Day 1 and departing on Day 6 - flight quotations available on request, please contact us for further details
- Drinks
- Gratuities
- All entrance fees to non-stipulated attractions
- Visas, travel insurance
- Any personal items and anything not mentioned under included in price above
- Any meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Any optional activities offered
- Any COVID tests or related entry & exit requirements

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Flights:** International flights to/from your chosen destination are not included in this package. The Big Journey Company will be happy to provide a quotation for your flights—please contact us for further details.
- **Vaccinations & Health:** Vaccinations may be recommended depending on your destination. Please consult your doctor or travel clinic for the most up-to-date medical advice.
- **Visas & Entry Requirements:** Entry requirements vary by destination, and a visa may be required. Please refer to the travel tips section for full details. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the necessary travel documentation prior to departure.
- **Medical Needs:** Please inform The Big Journey Company prior to travel of any medical conditions or medications you take that we should be aware of to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.
- **Accommodation Check-in/Out:** Unless otherwise stated in your itinerary, check-in is after 2–3pm and check-out is before 10am. Please note that hotels may be subject to change to the same or similar standard due to availability.
- **Cancellation Policy:** Cancellations made within 90 days of departure are subject to a 100% cancellation fee. Deposits are non-refundable, and balance payments are due 14 weeks prior to departure. It is your responsibility to ensure adequate travel insurance is in place to protect against the need to cancel your holiday.
- **Minimum Numbers:** The Big Journey Company host will accompany the tour should minimum guest numbers be met. We will confirm this closer to the departure date.
- **Terms & Conditions:** Further terms and conditions apply and will be provided upon request or at the time of booking. The Big Journey Company reserves the right to withdraw any offer prior to accepting a reservation. This does not affect your statutory rights. All offers are subject to availability and space is limited.

BOOK YOUR JOURNEY

Choose from the list of dates below

24 OCT - 29 OCT 2026

FROM £2,775 PER PERSON.

Call to Book

0844 3350 197

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