



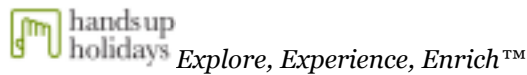
Explore, Experience, Enrich™

CN003 Along the Silk Road 21 Days



Your “Taste of Volunteering” Project: English Teaching and Repair Work on Local School

Our Community Development project location will be in Khotan, located at the northern foot of the Karakorum Mountains and on the Southern fringe of the Taklamakhan Desert. There are 24 different ethnic groups living in Khotan. Our Community Development project is to teach English or help paint and repair the local school. We will also learn about the Mulberry Tree paper making tradition, which is hundreds of years old but in which there is only one skilled practitioner left alive.



UK: 0800 783 3554; NZ: 0800 426 3787; US 201 984 5372 ; RoW: +44 207 193 1062
Bookings@handsupholidays.com



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Trip Highlights:

- Hong Kong
- Macau
- Xi'an's Terracotta Warriors
- The spirit art in the Mogao Grottoes
- The Flaming Mountains
- The enchanting oasis of Turfan
- Kashgar's exotic Sunday Bazaar
- The Heavenly Lake
- Beijing's Tiananmen Square, alleys and markets, Forbidden City and the Great Wall at Mutianyu

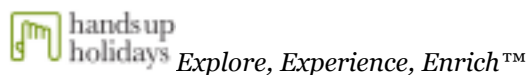
Trip Description:

The Silk Road is one of those names which epitomise the mystery of China, and her illustrious past. This panoramic journey focuses not only on the path of Marco Polo - the Great Silk Road, but also takes us to classic sites of Imperial and Modern China. A perfect chance to explore remote Silk Road staging posts, encountering a diversity of cultures, landscapes and religions.

We start from Hong Kong, then on to Macau, where we explore this former Portuguese Colony. We then fly to Xi'an, ancient capital of Imperial China cultural attractions where we can see the world famous Terracotta Warriors. From here we travel to Dunhuang to study the spirit art in the Mogao Grottoes, one of China's greatest cultural attractions.

We continue westwards, through the Flaming Mountains and the enchanting oasis of Turfan to Urumqi - a fascinating melting pot of Uygur and Han cultures, and then fly over the Taklamakan desert to Kashgar with its exotic Sunday Bazaar. The Central Asian soul of the city is virtually unchanged since the Silk Road days.

After a picturesque day trip through Tianshan to the Heavenly Lake, we fly from Urumqi to Beijing, a modern and ancient capital, before flying home.



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Day by Day Itinerary:

Day 1	Hong Kong – Arrival	(D)
Day 2	Hong Kong tour	(B,L,D)
Day 3	Ferry to Macau	(B,L,D)
Day 4	Macau to Zhuhai to Xian	(B,L,D)
Day 5	Xian	(B,L,D)
Day 6	Fly to Dunhuang	(B,L,D)
Day 7	Dunhuang to Turfan	(B,L,D)
Day 8	Arrive Turfan	(B,L,D)
Day 9	Turfan	(B,L,D)
Day 10	Turfan to Urumqi to Kashgar	(B,L,D)
Day 11	Kashgar	(B,L,D)
Day 12	Kashgar to Khotan	(B,L,D)
Day 13-16	Khotan – Community Development project	(B,L,D)
Day 17	Khotan to Urumqi	(B,L,D)
Day 18	Excursion to Heavenly Lake	(B,L,D)
Day 19	Urumqi to Beijing	(B,L,D)
Day 20	Beijing	(B,L,D)
Day 21	Leave Beijing; trip ends	(B)

Comfort Level: 4/5

This premier trip uses excellent 3* (eight nights) and 4* (eleven nights) hotels that are full of local character and charm. There is also one night on a comfortable sleeper train.

Activity Level: 2/5

Min. Travellers per Group: 2

Max. Travellers per Group: 12

Police Check Required? Yes