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Circling Holy Lhasa - Songtsam Lhasa Tour - 5 Days

Home to the Potala Palace, Jokhang Temple, and the Drepung and Sera monasteries, Lhasa is the most representative "holy land" in the world because of its depth of history and strong cultural heritage. It is said that if you have not been to Lhasa, you will never know the history and essence of Xizang culture. It is a city of mystical wonder and hidden beauty, attracting people from every corner of the world to visit, live, study, pilgrimage, and most of all, to be enlightened.

Date	Destinations	Attractions, Meals & Transport
1	Day 1 Lhasa	dinner - Pick up from Lhasa Gonggar Airport and check into hotel. - Relax to acclimatise to the altitude. - Welcome dinner at the hotel. Overnight at Songtsam Linka Lhasa (Altitude: 3,700m)
2	Day 2 Lhasa	breakfast, lunch, dinner - After breakfast visit Potala Palace, the iconic heart of Xizang Buddhism and the highest palace in the world. - Return to the hotel for lunch. - In the afternoon take part in a Thangka painting workshop to learn and understand the craftsmanship and techniques needed to make the delicate and intricate Xizang Buddhist art. - Dinner at the hotel. Overnight at Songtsam Linka Lhasa (Altitude: 3,700m) 

3	Day 4 Lhasa	breakfast, lunch, dinner - After breakfast visit the Zhayeba Monastery, which consists of a series of small cave-chapels and has now become one of the four most sacred places to conduct religious rites in Xizang. - Return to the hotel for lunch. - In the afternoon enjoy traditional Xizang performances and “Lhasa Time” afternoon tea (only available on weekends). Alternatively, visit Sera monastery, the second biggest monastery in Lhasa, where you have a chance to see the debate about Buddhism. - Dinner at the hotel Overnight at Songtsam Linka Lhasa (Altitude: 3,700m) 
4	Day 3 Lhasa	breakfast, lunch, dinner - After breakfast visit Jokhang Temple, the spiritual center of Xizang and the holiest destination for all Xizang pilgrims. - Afterwards go to Barkhor Street to experience the most vibrant bazaar in Lhasa. - Have lunch at a local restaurant. - In the afternoon visit Ramoche Monastery to see the life-sized statue of the 8-year-old Sakyamuni. - Dinner at the hotel. Overnight at Songtsam Linka Lhasa (Altitude: 3,700m) 

About Xizang Travel Permits:

1. All foreign travelers are required to have the Xizang Travel Permit (or Xizang Permit, Xizang Entry Permit) in hand before entering Xizang. The Xizang Travel Permit is issued by Xizang Administration to the authorized travel agencies, but not to individual travelers directly.

2. CITS handle Xizang Permit application for guests who booked Xizang tour package from us. Travelers can either take a tailored private tour or join in a group tour. The tour package should include services of tour guide, automobile, sightseeing &

accommodation. Please be advised that we do NOT offer “permit-only” service.

3. The Xizang Permit needs to be applied at least 20 days prior to arrival in Xizang, so we suggest travelers send the tour inquiry at least 30 days in advance.

4. The general travel information (including tour dates, travelers’ personal information, destinations in Xizang…) will be attached to the Xizang Permit, so the travel itinerary could not be changed once the tour is confirmed.

5. All travelers can get Xizang Permit through an authorized travel agency except diplomats, journalists, and government officials who should travel to Xizang under the arrangement by the Foreign Affairs Office of Xizang Government.

How to book a Xizang tour with Xizang Travel Permit:

Step1: Traveler sends a travel inquiry to CITS.

Step 2: CITS travel counselor sends you an itinerary and quote. We are pleased to make any changes as per your request before you are completely satisfied with the tour proposal.

Step 3: Book the tour and make the payment via bank transfer or PayPal. Payment needs to be received by us at least 20 days before your arrival.

Step 4: Send us the following document & information:
- A scanned copy of your passport (photo page);
- A scanned copy of your China visa (tourist visa);
- All travelers’ information including full names, gender, date of birth, passport number, nationality and occupation;

Step 5: Your travel counselors will confirm the tour and send you an email attached with the confirmation & voucher.

Step 6: When you leave for Lhasa you will need to show the original copy of the Xizang permit when checking in at the airport or railway station. The permit will be delivered to our local office in the departure city. You will need to pick it up from the local office. If you booked the land service at that city, our guide will pass the permit to you.

About Shopping or No-shopping Tours

Since October, 2013, CITS offers truly alternative prices of tours with or without shopping. Exceptionally, some tours only have one type price, such as seat-in-coach, hiking, self-driving and luxury tours, etc. Click here know more details.