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Xinjiang In-depth Tour of Cultural & Natural Views - 11 Days

This is an in-depth 11-day tour which you can experience local folk culture and appreciate natural landscapes of Xinjiang. Many famous spots will be visited, including Heavenly Lake, Sunday Bazaar, Karez Irrigation system, Jiaohe Ancient city, Bezeklik Grottoes, Flaming mountain, Grape valley and so on.

Date	Destinations	Attractions, Meals & Transport
1	Day 1 Urumqi	airport - hotel transfer in Urumqi
2	Day 2 Urumqi - Kashgar (by air)	airport transfer in Urumqi, airport - hotel transfer in Kashgar breakfast, lunch **Heavenly Lake** The Heavenly Lake is surrounded by the vastness of mountains and alpine meadows with an elevation of 2000 meters above sea level.
3	Day 3 Kashgar	breakfast, lunch **Afaq Khoja Mausoleum, Old Town of Kashgar, Id Kah Mosque , Sunday Bazaar** The Afaq Khoja Mausoleum is perhaps the finest example of Islamic architecture in Xinjiang, encompassing a larger complex that includes a functioning mosque and madrasa, the coffins of five generations of the family. The Mausoleum is also known as the Fragrant Concubine's Tomb, as it is the burial place of one of Afaq Khoja's descendants, Iparhan, who is believed to be the legendary Fragrant Concubine. Kashgar Old Town, located in Xinjiang, China, is a historic and cultural gem that dates back over 2,000 years. Known as one of the best-preserved traditional Islamic cities in the world, Kashgar Old Town is a captivating destination for travelers seeking to immerse themselves in ancient Silk Road history and experience a unique blend of Uyghur culture. The Id Kah Mosque is reputed to be the largest mosque in China. It highlights a group of old Islamic constructions with strong ethnic style and religious features. The Sunday Bazaar is the largest outdoor market in mid-Asia. The traditional bazaar was originally held on Sunday, but it is divided into two sections now. One is livestock district that opens only on Sunday and the other is ordinary district opens every day, and is especially busy on Sunday.
4	Day 4 Kashgar	breakfast, lunch **Karakuli Lake** The Karakuli Lake is a must- go place in Kashgar. Drive through the Karakurum Highway to have a good sight of the beautiful snow-capped mountains and the lake.

5	Day 5 Kashgar - Yining (by air) - Zhaosu County (by automobile)	airport transfer in Kashgar, airport transfer in Yining, private transfer from Yining to Zhaosu County breakfast, lunch **Xiata Scenic area** Located at Xiata Valley which is 70 kilometers southwest of Zhaosu County, Xiata Scenic area is famous for an ancient path. Xiata Ancient Path is the most dangerous part of the road on Ancient Silk Road due to its unpredictable topography, but it attracts many explorers and hikers to come here and challenge themselves.
6	Day 6 Zhaosu County - Tekes County (by automobile)	private transfer from Zhaosu County to Tekes County breakfast, lunch **Kuokesu Grand Canyon, Kalajun Grassland** Kuokesu Grand Canyon is located to the south of Tekes County, and originates from the central Tianshan Mountain. Inside the valley, lies the beautiful Kuokesu River. The steep cliffs and precipitous terrain form Hukou Waterfall and many other breathtakingly magnificent views. Kalajun grassland is situated in the southeastern side of Tekes County, it is one of the most famous grasslands in Xinjiang. The grassland is backed by snow mountains. As a fabulous destination along the Silk Road, you can enjoy spectacular landscapes and magnificent grassland here.
7	Day 7 Tekes County - Narat County (by automobile)	private transfer from Tekes County to Narat County breakfast, lunch **Narat Grassland** Narat Grassland is a National 5A Tourists Attraction, and one of top 10 scenic sites in Xinjiang. The landscapes are diverse here, including mountains, valleys, forest, and grassland. Many local people still lives here with their traditional folk culture which you can experience.
8	Day 8 Narat County - Urumqi (by air)	airport transfer in Narat County, airport - hotel transfer in Urumqi breakfast, lunch In the morning, continue to visit Narat Grassland, then transfer to Xinyuan Narat Airport and take flight to Urumqi. Grand Bazaar is a T-shaped, 800 meters long pedestrian street. It is actually a market since “bazaar” means market. After a renovation in 2018, the Grand Bazaar became the largest bazaar in the world. You can learn about local culture, catch up with international fashion, and enjoy delicious food altogether in Grand Bazaar.

9	Day 9 Urumqi - Turpan (by automobile)	private transfer from Urumqi to Turpan breakfast, lunch **Jiaohe Ruins , Karez System, Emin Minaret** The Jiaohe Ruins reveals traces of a prosperous ancient trading center and military base 600 years ago. The Karez System (UNESCO), an underground irrigation system, is considered to be one of the three great ancient projects of China. Its main function is to deliver water from nearby snow capped mountains to Turpan and its agricultural fields. Emin Minaret, also known as Sugong Tower, is one of the most famous Islamic constructions and the only Islamic tower in China.
10	Day 10 Turpan	breakfast, lunch **Astana Tombs , Flaming Mountain, Bazelik Thousand Buddha Caves, Grape Valley, Tuyok Valley** The Astana Tombs are known as the 'Underground Museum' and highly regarded by Chinese and foreign archaeologists and historians. More than 400 tombs have been excavated from there since 1950. Pass by the Flaming Mountain, which is famous in the Chinese classical literature “Journey to the West”. The Bazelik Thousand Buddha Caves has 77 caves and inside each cave is a rural of the Buddha painted on the ceiling along with hundreds of Buddhist sculptures and figures. With beautiful and elegant scenery, the Grape Valley is famous for growing all kinds of grapes and other fruits. Hidden in a small valley between an extension of the Flaming Mountains, Tuyoq Valley is a living museum of Uyghur history and a representation of the region’s glorious mixture of dry and fertile landscape. You can visit locals’ home and Ancient Buddhist caves here.
11	Day 11 Turpan - Urumqi (by bullet train)	train station transfer in Turpan breakfast Service ends.

Tour Includes :

-- Private tour guide
-- Private air-conditioned coach
-- Land transfers between airport or railway station and hotel
-- Entrance tickets as listed
-- Chinese Lunch as listed
-- Centrally located hotels with breakfast
-- Domestic flight with tax and train tickets (2nd class seat) as listed
-- Service charge & government taxes

Tour Excludes :

-- International flights with taxes
-- Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, phone bills, optional activities
-- Tips for guides and drivers
-- China Visa
-- Travel insurance

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