

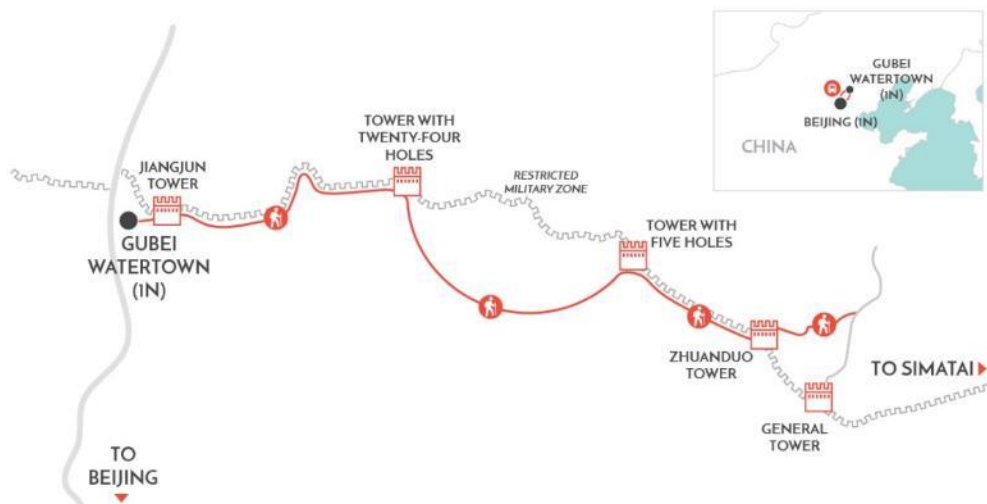


Great Wall Hike

Private Pre Tour Extension | 3 Days | Active

Gubeikou - Jinshanling - Simatai

Extend your holiday with a hike on China's most iconic sight, the Great Wall. Snaking through the northern countryside from the Gobi Desert in the west into the Bohai Sea in the east, the Great Wall of China is the longest wall in the world.



Great Wall Hike Extension Inclusions

- All accommodation
- Meals as stated on your itinerary
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking Local Guide
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Safe and secure with ABTA, ATOL and IATA

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, meals not included, insurance of any kind, tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary.

Pre Tour Extension

This 3 day extension is designed to precede any tour that starts in Beijing. It will run on a private basis and you will be accompanied by our dedicated local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

Active Tours:

This is an active paced extension and you must be physically fit to participate. The walk from Gubeikou to Jinshanling is approximately 12kilometres and will take about 6 hours (depending on your pace). There are steep sections, and in places the ground is uneven and loose underfoot.

Of course, local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary. If you require any more information, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to answer your questions.



Itinerary – Great Wall Hike Pre Tour Extension

Day 1: Arrive Beijing

Meals included: None

On arrival in Beijing Capital International Airport you will be met in the arrivals hall by your local guide and transferred to your Beijing Hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.



Destination Information

Beijing - Beijing is the capital of the People's Republic of China. With its unequalled wealth of history, Beijing served as the centre for the many different empires and cultures that ruled China and has been the heart of politics and society throughout its long history. The ancient monuments, the stories of days gone by as well as the dynamic and modern city Beijing has become today, make it a destination not to be missed.

Day 2: Gubeikou – Jinshanling

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning you will be transferred two and half hours to the Gubeikou section of the Great Wall, a much less visited section than other parts of the Wall. From here you will start your hike to the Jinshanling Great Wall, which will take approximately five to six hours over around 10 kilometres. Both Jinshanling and Gubeikou are rough and wild, and afford some of the best views in China. You will wind your way through wooded countryside and over dramatic hills. The stark, yet magnificent surroundings allow you to put yourself in the shoes of those who walked this incredible edifice hundreds of years ago. The walk intersects a military base, and will detour briefly off the wall around the base, stopping at a farmhouse for a lunch of homecooked dishes. Finishing your hike, you will be transferred to Gubei Watertown for an overnight stay.



Please note: Walking boots and poles are recommended for this hike, underfoot, the pathway is rocky, steep in places and largely unmaintained. Drinking Water will be provided.

Destination Information

Gubeikou Great Wall - Meaning "Northern Pass", this section of the Great Wall formed the northern defensive line of Beijing during the Tang Dynasty. As it has not been renovated or maintained, this section of the Great Wall represents a fabulous opportunity to experience an authentic piece of Chinese history; as well as a challenging walk.

Jinshanling Great Wall - Located north east of Beijing, the Jinshanling Section of the Great Wall snakes through stunning mountain scenery and offers panoramic views over the neighbouring countryside. This Ming Dynasty section of the Great Wall offers one of the most breathtaking walks from the Gubeikou section.

Day 3: Simatai Great Wall

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning take the cable car on to the Simatai section of the Great Wall and enjoy spectacular views as the sun rises. If the sun rise time is too early, sun rise can be swapped for sun set on day 2. Much of Simatai Great Wall has not been restored and is draped over a rocky mountain ridge. Spend a couple of hours soaking up the breathtaking views and exploring the wall with its many watchtowers. After lunch you will return to Beijing where your arrangements end.



Destination Information

Simatai Great Wall - Constructed under the supervision of Qi Jiguang, a famous general in the Ming Dynasty, the Simatai section of the Great Wall has 34 impressive watch towers and affords incredible views as it unfolds through dramatic valleys and ridges towards Jinshanling.

Great Wall Hike Travel Information

Visas

A visa is required for entry into China. A standard visa processing service is included in your tour cost for UK and EU passport holders. We will require your passport, completed visa application form, and 1 passport photo, taken within the last 6 months, to process your visa. We will require all this information 8 weeks prior to departure. As per our standard visa processing service, we will have your passport for at least 4 weeks. Any visa applications that require an express 2 week service, or that are received in our office less than 6 weeks prior to departure will incur a £60 per passport express fee. In rare cases, you may be required to provide further information or documentation to the Chinese embassy and or be required to attend an interview at the embassy in London. If this is the case we will notify you as soon as possible.

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. These details will be available to your national escort should they be required. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Transport

Cars with air conditioning are used on our private tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Roads in China have generally been improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road – not just 1-2 kilometres as you may be used to. There may be sections of road where the surface may be comparatively bumpy but our drivers will do their utmost to lessen the impact.

Development in China

Though parts of China match the west in modernity and technological advances, it is important to remember that China is still a developing country and as such, many aspects of tourism in China do not have the solid infrastructure and safety standards as seen here in the west.

Chinese public holidays

If you are travelling within the below Chinese Public Holidays please note that celebrations last for several days and during these times some businesses will be closed and coach, air and train travel may be affected. Tourist attractions will be open, but may be crowded. Chinese New Year is on 28th January 2017 and 16th February 2018. Golden Week public holidays fall annually between 1-3 May and 1-7 October.

Climate

Please refer to our website or brochure for detailed temperature charts.

Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities; please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and China. All hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your Local Guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Eating in China

Chinese cuisine is one of the most influential, diverse and flavoursome culinary styles in the world with a legacy stretching back thousands of years. Often you'll find that the local Chinese style is very different from what you're used to at home. Meals included are stated on your itinerary. To give you more flexibility and choice when travelling we have included evenings at leisure so that you can explore the many culinary delights that China has to offer. Alternatively, you can use this time to enjoy the facilities of your hotel. Your local guide will be happy to provide you with advice about good places to eat, and assist in the booking of transportation to get you there (at your own expense).

Please read your travel guide which you will receive with your final documents for more information about eating in China. We recommend that when it comes to Chinese food, you stay open minded, try to be adventurous and always have a go with the chopsticks!

After your booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to departure.

Itinerary changes

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.