

9D7N SHANXI MAY 14 - 22, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- * **Mt. Hengshan** - the North Great Mountain of China.
- * **Hanging Monastery** (Xuan Kong Temple) - built into a cliff 75m above ground.
- * **Mt. Wutaishan (UNESCO World Heritage)** - sacred Buddhist mountain attributed to Bodhisattva of Wisdom, Manjusri (or 'Wenshu' in Mandarin).
- * **Yungang Grottoes (UNESCO World Heritage)** - with 252 caves and 51,000 statues; outstanding Buddhist cave art in China of the 5th and 6th centuries.
- * **Pingyao Ancient Town (UNESCO World Heritage)** -14th century, with city wall
- * **Datong 9 Dragon Screen** - oldest and largest glazed screen in China today.
- * **Qiao Family Courtyard** - large heritage ancestral home (9,000 square meters area & 313 rooms), featured in award winning movie, "**Raise the Red Lantern**".
- * **Hukou Falls** - largest waterfall on the Yellow River and the 2nd largest in China
- * **Yangling Mausoleum of the Han Dynasty** - historically significant joint tomb of Emperor Liu Qi and his empress, Empress Wang.

DAY 1 SAT MAY 14: KL departure

7pm Air Asia departure from KLIA2.

DAY 2 SUN MAY 15: Beijing– Yungang Grottoes – Datong (B/L/D)

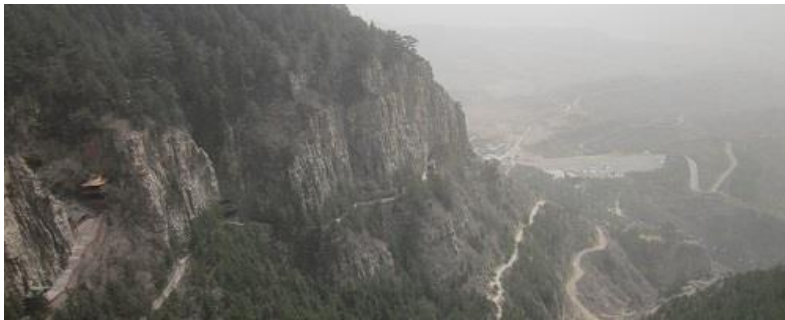


1.05am arrival **Beijing airport**. Transfer to hotel to overnight. After breakfast, check-out hotel and transfer to **Datong**. After lunch, visit **UNESCO World Heritage Yungang Grottoes**. With 252 caves and 51,000 statues, it represents the outstanding achievement of Buddhist cave art in China of the 5th and 6th centuries. Return to Datong to visit the **Nine Dragon Screen**, built for the 13th son of Zhu Yuanzhang, the first Emperor of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). Of 426 specially-fired glazed bricks, it is 26 feet in height, 6.6 feet in thickness and 149 feet in length. It is the oldest and largest glazed screen in China today. Overnight in Datong.

DAY 3 MON MAY 16: Datong - Hanging Monastery - Hengshan - Wutaishan (B/L/D)



Transfer to visit **Hanging Monastery** (Xuan Kong Temple), which is built into a cliff 75m above the ground. It is also unique in that it incorporates 3 traditional Chinese religions: Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism. On December 2010, it was listed in the "Time" magazine as the world's top ten most odd dangerous buildings.



Then to take cable car (return ticket) up **Hengshan mountain**, one of the 5 sacred mountains of China (this one representing the cardinal direction North). Visit sites such as Hengzong Temple (Northern Peak Temple), Tianfeng Summit and Kutian Wells (Bitter & Sweet Wells). Transfer to Wutaishan to overnight.

DAY 4 TUE MAY 17: Wutaishan (B/L/D)

Wutaishan is a **UNESCO World Heritage** site and 1 of th 4 Holy Buddhist Mountains of China. Home to more than 40 monasteries, it is attributed as the abode of the Bodhisatva Manjushri ("Wenfo" in Chinese, the Bodhisatva of Wisdom). The name means 'the five terrace mountain' in Chinese due to it 5 flat peaks; this is the highest mountain in Northern China.



Early morning, visit **Sea Viewing Peak** (Wanghai Peak) in the East to view sunrise and "sea of clouds"; followed by **Leaf Hopper Peak** (Yedou Peak) in the North (which at 3,061m, is the highest point in northern China). Next will be **Moon Hanging Peak** (Guayue Peak) in the West, **Jade Rock Peak** (Cuiyan Peak) in the Center; and **Splendid Peak** (Jinxiu Peak) in the South. Overnight in Wutaishan.



DAY 5 WED MAY 18: Wutaishan – Pingyao (B/L/D)

Then, visit **Pusading** (Bodhisattva Summit) Temple, **Xiantong** Temple, **Tayuan** Temple and **Wanfo** Temple. Visit **Dailuo Ding** (include return cable car) located atop a hill with panoramic views of Taihuai town and the surrounding peaks. Transfer to **Pingyao** town to overnight.



DAY 6 THU MAY 19: Pingyao - Qiao Family Courtyard – Pingyao (B/L/D)



Transfer out to visit **Qiao Family Courtyard**, a well preserved huge ancestral home (an area of 9,000 square meters & with 313 rooms). The Qiao Family Courtyard became famous after it was used to shoot the award winning movie, "Raise the Red Lantern", directed by Zhang

Yimou (with Gong Li as the lead actress).



Back to **UNESCO World Heritage Pingyao**, a well-preserved town founded in the 14th century. Visit **Pingyao City Wall, Old City (Ming & Qing Street), Rishengchang Exchange Shop, ancient security escort company building, ancient county government building** and **Shanxi Local products** center. Overnight in Pingyao.

DAY 7 FRI MAY 20: Pingyao – Hukou Falls

(B/L/D)



Transfer to **Hukou Falls**, at the border of Shanxi and Shaanxi provinces. It is Yellow River's largest waterfall and 2nd largest in China. The narrowness of Jinxia Grand Canyon forces out the water at high speed down a cliff, forming a waterfall 50 feet high and 66 feet. It looks like water pouring out from a teapot, hence the name Hukou ("flask mouth"). Overnight at hotel nearby.

DAY 8 SAT MAY 21: Hukou Falls – Xi'an

(B/L/D)



Cross into Shaanxi Province, towards Xi'an. Visit the **Yangling Mausoleum of the Han Dynasty** (Hanyangling), a joint tomb of Liu

Qi, emperor of the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-24AD), and his empress, Empress Wang. It was built in the year 153 AD and covers an area of 20 square kilometres. After dinner, transfer to Xi'an airport for flight check-in.

DAY 9 SUN MAY 22: Xi'an departure - KL

Catch 12.15am Air Asia flight to KLIA2, arriving at 5.15am.

RATES: RM 4,590 per person, twin sharing, minimum 16 persons group

GV4 rate: RM 4,490 /person (4 persons or more sign-up together)

Single Supplement: RM 950

Rates & itinerary are subject to changes in FOREX rates, unforeseen surcharges, weather, local conditions, etc.

INCLUSIVE:

a) Return airport-hotel transfers and private coach for tour excursion.

b) Hotel accommodation (according to China star rating standard)

Beijing: Days Inn Business Place Hotel (4 star) or similar

Datong: Yanbei Hotel (4 star) or similar

Wutaishan: Floral Hills Hotel (4 star) or similar

Pingyao: Pingyao Hall Hotel (4 star heritage hotel) or similar

Hukou: Hukou Waterfall Hotel (3 star) or similar

c) Full board meals

d) English speaking tour guide

e) Entrance fees for all attractions as per itinerary

f) Daily 1 bottle of drinking water per person

g) Tipping for tour guide and driver

EXCLUDING:

a) Air Asia air tickets, airport taxes & fuel surcharges.

b) China Single Entry Visa RM120 /person

c) Travel insurance – can be arranged separately – RM 52 /pax (9 days coverage)

d) Expenses of personal nature like additional activities not in itinerary, laundry charges, mini bar charges, tipping to hotel/restaurant staff for personal service rendered, etc.