

7 Days Scenic Skyway Tour of Qinghai-Tibet Plateau

Valid Till : Dec 2018

D1: Arrive Xi'ning. Today we will arrive Xi'ning, pearl of Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. The guide will meet you at Xining Airport, and transfer you to hotel about 1 hours' driving. After arrive in Xi'ning, free activities, rest and acclimatize. Overnight in Xi'ning

D2 Xi'ning-Qinghai Lake(160KM)-Xi'ning-Lhasa: Today we will experience the difference between Loess Plateau and Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, as well as between Chinese and Tibetan culture by long distance view of the well-known **Ri Yue Mountain, Ri Pavilion and Yue Pavilion and Dao Tang River.** Another highlight of the day is famous **Qinghai Lake (Koko Nor)** which is the biggest inland salt lake in China. It's a somewhat surreal-looking saline lake, the largest lake in China and contains huge numbers of fish. Then return Xi'ning and take the night train to Lhasa. Over night on the train

D3: Arrive Lhasa Arrive Lhasa in the evening, the warmest welcome from Tibetan people. Acclimate for the altitude. We will take the Qinghai-Tibet train whole day to Lhasa. The route: Xi'ning- Gelmud - Tuotuo River – Amdo – Nagqu – Damxung – Lhasa. (The meals on the train will be covered by yourself). After 22 hrs traveling, we arrive the Sunlight City-Lhasa, a saint city with 1300 years history. Take a good rest to acclimate for the 3650M altitude. Over night in Lhasa (B) .

D4: Lhasa. The first day of sightseeing starts from Lhasa's cardinal landmark – **Potala Palace**, a structure of massive portions. Its towering image already appearing on various occasions, but your first sight of the Potala will still be an awe-inspiring moment. Some 2km to the east of the Potala is the most revered religious structure in Tibet – **Jokhang Temple**. Bustling with worshippers and redolent with mystery, the Jokhang is an unrivalled experience. The quadrangle of streets surrounding the Jokhang is the **Barkhor** – Lhasa's most interesting pilgrimage circuit. This area of the Old Town is both the spiritual heart of Lhasa and the main commercial district for Tibetans. Overnight in Lhasa (B)

D5: Lhasa-Yamdroktso-Shigatse. **Yamdroktso**(4441m), one of Tibet's three holy lakes, is located 110km outside of Lhasa. In the fresh morning air, you're on the way to this lake. It's mostly mountain road, winding and bumpy, even thrilling somewhat. After about 3 1/2 hours' driving, climbing over the snow pass of Kambala(5030m), the dazzling Yamdroktso just lies several hundred meters below the road, and in clear weather is a fabulous shade of deep turquoise. Far in the distance is the huge massif of Mt. Nojin Kangtsang(7191m).

After down from the mountain, there's about 30km road along lakeside, with barley fields on the other side of the road. A nice walk by the lakeside can be a great joy. Leaving Yamdroktso is as spectacular as arriving, since you'll cross the 5045m Karola, with its awesome roadside views of the Nojin Kangtsang Glacier.

With the Glacier scene still exciting you, after about 90km, you get to **Gyantse**. There stands the 35m-high famous **Kumbum**, packed with exquisite Tibetan sculpture and paintings, a stunning architectural wonder in Tibet. Overnight in Shigatse(B)

D6: Shigatse-Lhasa. While **Tashilhunpo's** magnificent outside leaves you gasp in admiration, the inside of this monastery introduces you more religious tranquility and sincerity.

Just close Tashilhunpo is the **Old Town** of Shigatse, a great place to wander around: Nicely decorated Tibetan houses and interesting market and bazaar give you a vivid picture of local people's life. Afternoon drive back Lhasa. Overnight in Lhasa. (B)

D7: Leave Lhasa. Pack your luggage and get ready for leaving. The guide will transfer you to the airport, and help you board the plane. Say goodbye to Tibet and fly out. End of the tour. B.

