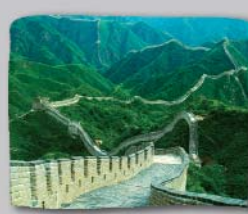


ICON
ADVENTURES®



Icon Adventures with Kool Places Pty Ltd (licence no. 3318076)

PO Box 1121, Toowoomba, QLD 4350, Australia

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Great Wall of China Trek

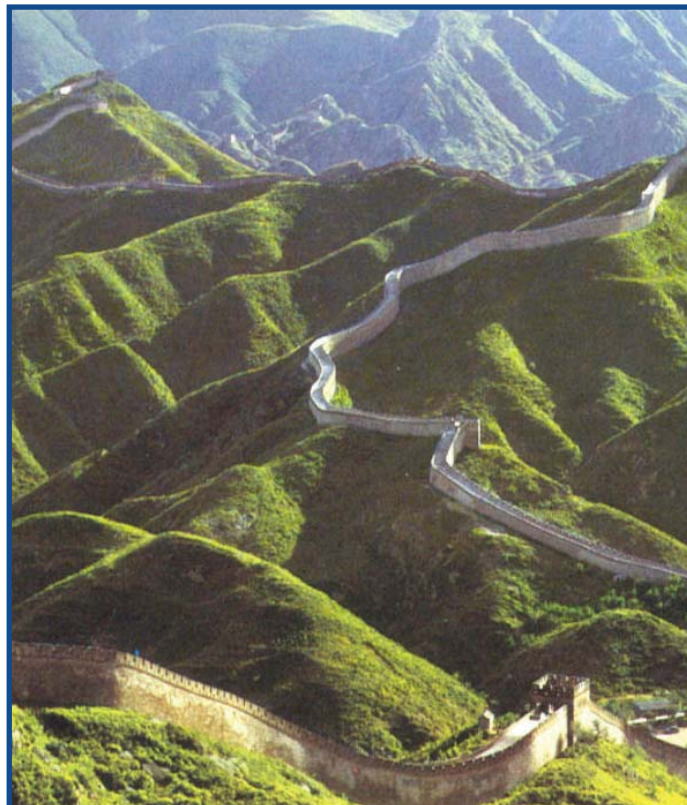
DEPARTS:
Oct 16, 2011

COST PER PERSON:
\$4490*

INCLUDES:

- International economy airfares departing Brisbane, Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne or Perth flying to Beijing. Returning via Shanghai.
- Prepaid international airline taxes.
- Transfers and transport in Beijing and during trekking.
- Twin share (3 star) hotel accommodation in Beijing and Shanghai.
- Twin share and possible multiple share accommodation in local hotels and guest houses during the trek.
- Most meals.
- English-speaking local tour leaders
- Entrance fees.
- Australian host.
- Tips and gratuities to local guides and drivers.

* Price is subject to change due to currency fluctuations or increases in flight or other costs.

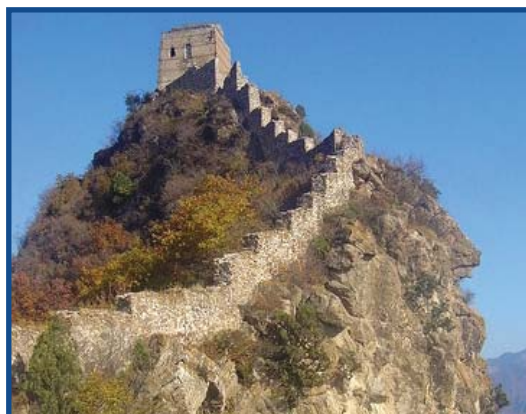


Come and trek along one of the seven wonders of the modern world with Icon Adventures: the Great Wall of China.

The Great Wall is a series of stone and earthen walls, ramparts and towers that stretches from over 6000 kilometres from Shanhaiguan in the east to Lop Nur in the west along an arc that roughly follows the southern edge of Inner Mongolia. Construction started as early as 206 BC and continued until the 16th Century, with much construction during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The wall was built to protect the northern borders of the Chinese Empire against invasions by nomadic tribes.

Icon Adventures will take you to some of the most scenic and historic parts of the wall; some have been restored to their former glory while other parts have

fallen into disrepair but are beautiful none-the-less. The wall clammers over jagged ridges, deep valleys and high mountains and through spectacular countryside. We'll stay in comfortable hotels or guest houses in villages so you can experience the local food and culture of each area that we visit. In all we'll spend five days trekking along the wall, which will give us enough time to also see the Thirteen Tombs of the Ming Dynasty north of Beijing, the Summer Palace and Tiananmen Square in Beijing and to have nearly two full days exploring the fascinating city of Shanghai.



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Itinerary

Date	Activity	Overnight
SUNDAY OCT 16 DAY 1	Depart Australia (ADL/BNE/MEL/PER/SYD) for Beijing.	On plane
MONDAY OCT 17 DAY 2 (D)	Arrive at Beijing International Airport and transfer to hotel.	Beijing Hotel (TBA)
TUESDAY OCT 18 DAY 3 (B,L,D)	<p>Drive to Eastern Qing Tombs then to the Great Wall at Huangyaguan for the first part of the trek. The Thirteen Tombs of the Ming Dynasty are about 50 kilometres due north of Beijing. The site was chosen by the third Ming Dynasty emperor Yongle (1402-1424) who moved the capital of China from Nanjing to the present location of Beijing. He is credited with planning the layout of the ancient city of Beijing. After the construction of the Imperial Palace (the Forbidden City) in 1420, Yongle selected his burial site and created his own mausoleum. The Ming tombs of the 13 emperors of the Ming Dynasty are located on the southern slope of Tianshou Mountain (originally Mount Huangtu).</p> <p>The Huangyaguan section of the Great Wall was originally built over 1400 years ago during the Northern Qi Dynasty and reinforced with brick walls during the Ming Dynasty. In 1984 major repair work was completed on over three kilometres of the wall.</p>	Hotel/guest house Huangyaguan
WEDNESDAY OCT 19 DAY 4 (B,L,D)	<p>Drive to Gubeikou Great Wall and trek to Jinshanling Great Wall. Gubeikou, situated in Beijing's Miyun County, is 125 kilometers away from Beijing. The Yanshan Range winds from east to west and is cut off at Gubeikou, forming a natural narrow pass here. To the west of the pass are the Chaohe River and the Wohu Mountain, and to the east is the Panlong Mountain. From ancient times, Gubeikou has served as a route of strategic importance, linking the southern and northern areas of the Yanshan Range.</p> <p>The main part of the Gubeikou Wall was constructed under the supervision of Xu Da, a noted general in the Ming Dynasty. It runs for more than 20 kilometers and consists of four sections: Wohushan, Panlongshan, Jinshanling, and Simatai. It has 143 beacon towers, each positioned at an average interval of about 150 metres. Each tower has two floors, six archways, and ten arched doors, allowing garrisoned soldiers to advance and retreat freely. The Gubeikou Great Wall was built along precipitous mountain ranges with steep rises and falls.</p>	Hotel/guest house Jinshanling
THURSDAY OCT 20 DAY 5 (B,L,D)	Trek along Great Wall from Jinshanling to Simatai. This is one of the most striking sections of the Great Wall built during the Ming Dynasty. It climbs extremely steep slopes and runs for around 11 kilometers. The Wangjinglou Tower is one of Jinshanling's 67 watchtowers and is on stands alone on a mountain, which the highest part of the Great Wall at 980 meters above sea level.	Hotel/guest house Simatai
FRIDAY OCT 21 DAY 6 (B,L,D)	Drive to and trek around Great Wall at Mutianyu. Southeast of Jinshanling is the Mutianyu Great Wall, which winds along lofty, cragged mountains from the southeast to the northwest for approximately 2.25 kilometers. It is connected with Juyongguan Pass to the west and Gubeikou to the east	Hotel/guest house Mituanyu
SATURDAY OCT 22 DAY 7 (B,L,D)	Trek around Great Wall at Jiankou. This section of the Great Wall is famous for its steep mountains, jagged cliffs and steep drop-offs. Jiankou means 'arrow nock' in English because the shape of the mountain resembles an arrow with a collapsed ridge forming the arrow nock. It was constructed in 1368 during the period of the Ming Dynasty and is made of distinctive white rocks. Much of it has fallen into disrepair. There are many attractions along the Jiankou section, including the tower known as The Eagle Flies Facing Upward. The Sky Stairs is another famous spot – a narrow and very steep staircase. Back to Beijing for the night.	Beijing Hotel (TBA)

Itinerary...continued

Date	Activity	Overnight
SUNDAY OCT 23 DAY 8 (B,L,D)	<p>Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City.</p> <p>Tiananmen Square is the centrepiece of Beijing. It contains the Qianmen Gate, The National Revolution Museum, The Peoples Hall (National Parliament), and the Forbidden City.</p> <p>The Forbidden City was built from 1420 at the beginning of the Ming Dynasty and was home to 13 emperors. A not-to-be-missed Beijing attraction.</p> <p>Afternoon free. An Optional Gong Fu performance in the evening. This show has been performed more than 3000 times around the world to date but it is now permanently housed in a new theatre in Beijing. It combines traditional story telling with martial arts and dance.</p>	Beijing Hotel (TBA)
MONDAY OCT 24 DAY 9 (B)	<p>Summer Palace.</p> <p>The Summer Palace is the playground of the former Emperors of the Qing Dynasty (1750-1910). This palace is famous for its beautiful gardens, meticulously decorated pavilions and massive man-made lake that replicates the natural West Lake of Hangzhou, an ancient tea city close to Shanghai.</p> <p>Afternoon free.</p>	Beijing Hotel (TBA)
TUESDAY OCT 25 DAY 10 (B)	<p>Depart Beijing on the overnight sleeper train to Shanghai.</p>	On train
WEDNESDAY OCT 26 DAY 11 (B)	<p>Cross the Yangtze River at sunrise and arrive in Shanghai early in the morning for a day of adventure exploring cosmopolitan Shanghai. Some of the things that are on offer include the French Concession, a pretty part of the inner city with tree-lined streets of old villas and shops or visit the Bund, the most famous street in Shanghai, which contains many impressive buildings of historical significance. There's also contemporary art at Moganshan Road or go to Taikang Road to see Shanghai's street life and for cafes and shopping. Don't miss finishing the day with drinks at the Glamour Bar on the Bund and watching the sun set over the river.</p>	Shanghai Hotel (TBA)
THURSDAY OCT 28 DAY 12 (B)	<p>Transfer to Shanghai International Airport at around 11.00 am for flights back to Australia.</p>	On plane

Extra information

Essential items to bring

Comfortable trekking boots, trekking clothes, broad-brimmed hat, day pack, water bottle or Camelbak, sunscreen, snacks, waterproof jacket, warm clothes for cool evenings, water-purifying tablets.

Fitness

A reasonable level of fitness is required for this trek. There is no technical climbing involved but there are many steps and steep sections of wall to negotiate.

Add-ons

Please ask us if you want to include add-ons to this trip. A recommended add-on is ancient Xian, China's first capital dating to 200 BC, which is the start of the Silk Road and the location of the Terracotta Warriors (this add-on can be combined with Shanghai).

Vaccinations

Please consult your nearest travel doctor for the most up-to-date recommendations for vaccinations and other tips for healthy travelling in China.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance (including comprehensive medical cover) is compulsory for this trek. We recommend World Nomads (see our website for more information). Ensure you have your insurance in place at the time of booking.

Passport and visa

Your passport will need at least six month's validation past the date of the trek. A visa is required to visit China. This can be obtained from your nearest Chinese Consulate and costs AUD\$78.50 (at time of printing).

Booking form

To secure your spot on the Great Wall of China Trek please complete this form and fax it to: **07 3103 4606**

Or post to: **Icon Adventures, PO Box 1121, Toowoomba QLD, 4350**

For booking information please call Laura Ramsey on 0423 204 551 or for specific enquiries about this itinerary, please contact **James Holden** on **0403 418 263**.



- Great Wall of China Trek (departs Oct 16, 2011) @ \$4490* per person (twin share)**
- Please advise me of single supplement or business class options**

PASSENGER 1

PASSENGER 2

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

HOME ADDRESS

.....
.....

DATE OF BIRTH

TELEPHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER

SIGNED: PASSENGER 1 PASSENGER 2

DATE

Please send your deposit of \$1500 per person to secure your booking

Payment options (please tick preferred option):

- Cheque:** Please make cheques payable to Kool Place Pty Ltd (postal address is at the top of this form).
- Direct deposit:** BSB: 064 012, account no: 1021 8945 (Commonwealth Bank)
- Credit card:** We accept credit card payments over the phone. Please call Laura on 0423 204 551 (small fee applies).

* Price may be subject to change due to increased flight or other costs or variations in exchange rates.

Full terms and conditions are available at www.iconadventures.com

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