

XINJIANG NORTH-SOUTH CROSSING

9
Days

Lightweight Trekking along
the Wusun Ancient Trail 2025

- ▶ Explore Xinjiang's rich history and culture
- ▶ Immerse in nomadic lifestyle experiences
- ▶ Enjoy a luxurious outdoor camping experience
- ▶ Hike through grassland landscapes
- ▶ View the northern slopes of the Tianshan Mountains

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旅遊資訊!



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Booking & Enquiries

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Paradise Lake

About the Wusun Ancient Trail

The Wusun Ancient Trail was a major transport artery in the Western Han period, connecting Wusun Kingdom in the north to the state of Guishuang in the south. It served as a strategic corridor through the Tianshan Mountains linking north and south. From the Han and Tang dynasties to the Qing dynasty and Republican era, there have been historical records of people traveling this route. Even during the chaotic rebellions of the Qing, the government designated this area as a passageway. Remnants of past civilizations such as fortress ruins, beacon towers, and ancient military posts can still be found along the trail. For example, near the mouth of the river valley at the exit of the Bohu-Kuqa trail, there remains a mural with inscriptions from the Eastern Han period (around 158 AD) commemorating General Ban Chao's conquest. Along with the site of the "Governor's Pavilion" and carved Han characters, these form valuable historical and archaeological relics.

Together with the ancient trails of Yecheng and the Tiemen-guan-Wolf Tower Route, the Wusun Trail is recognized as one of the "Three Classic Expedition Routes" for outdoor exploration in Xinjiang. Among the three, the Wusun Trail is

considered the most breathtaking in terms of landscape.

"Yecheng is magnificent, with towering cliffs and imposing peaks.

Wusun is delicate and warm, full of subtle beauty.

Wolf Tower is rugged and wild, yet life thrives amid the crags."

The Wusun Trail is often hailed as the most beautiful ancient trail in China—its reputation well deserved. Among all, the segment praised as the most enchanting is the stretch often referred to as the "Heavenly Lake," a glacial lake with an elevation of 3,000 meters and a surface area of over 40 square kilometers. It lies beneath the towering peaks of the Tianshan Mountains in Aksu Prefecture, near the village of Awat.

The trail also runs alongside the upper reaches of the Kekesu River, with dramatic gorges cutting through the land for hundreds of kilometers, showcasing iconic landscapes of the western slopes of the Tianshan Mountains.

Eastern Han General
Liu Pingguo StatueWusun Trail Mid-Valley
Grassland Views

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Day	Itinerary	Break-fast	Lunch	Dinner	Accommodation
1	Departure City → Ürümqi	-	Local Flavor	Local Flavor	Meiju Hotel
2	Ürümqi ~ Flight to Yining City	Local Flavor	Local Flavor	Local Flavor	Weiren Hotel
3	Yining ~ Qiongkushi Terrace 2000m ~ Camp D1 (2800m)	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Wilderness Camp
4	Camp D1 ~ Qiongdas Pass 3730m ~ Camp D2 (3300m)	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Wilderness Camp
5	Camp D2 ~ Kekesu River ~ Yemosi ~ Tianchi Valley River Crossing → Camp D3 Forestry Station (2720m)	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Wilderness Camp
6	Camp D3 ~ Grassland Station ~ Camp D4 Tianchi (3050m)	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Wilderness Camp
7	Camp D4 ~ Akebula Qiongdas Pass (3860m) ~ Camp D5 Bozokurangi Valley (2800m)	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Wilderness Camp
8	Camp D5 ~ Bozokurangi Gorge Mouth (2180m) ~ Heiying Village (1930m) ~ Kuqa	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Camp Meal	Designated Hotel in Kuqa
9	Kuqa ~ Warm House (Airport Transfer)	Local Flavor	-	-	Have a pleasant journey

Personal Gear Checklist

(1) Clothing & Apparel



Windproof & waterproof outerwear (high performance recommended) | Fleece jacket & pants | Quick-dry clothing | Down jacket | Moisture-wicking base layers | Outdoor socks with sweat-wicking properties



Hiking boots (waterproof, mid or high cut; inspect soles and upper for damage) | Water shoes (for river crossing or sandy terrain)



Sun hat | Warm hat (for wind protection & insulation) | Two pairs of gloves (1 thin, 1 thick) | Rain poncho | Outdoor sunglasses

(2) Supporting Equipment

Rain poncho | Trekking poles | Gaiters | Headlamp & spare batteries | 30L personal daypack (to carry daily hiking essentials like clothing, food, water, etc.) | All other gear will be provided and shared 2 persons per group by the club.

(3) Other Items

ID card | Sunscreen | Lip balm | Personal medication

Tour Fee Details

Included in Price

Meals: 2 city meals, 6 outdoor campsite dinners, daily hiking lunch packs, all breakfasts

Transportation: Coach from Urumqi to Yining, private vehicle after hike

Gear: Tents, sleeping pads, dining set, tables & chairs

Support Team: 4 guides, 2 cooks, 2 tent crew, 2 horses, 1 horse handler (based on group size)

Accommodation: 1 night hotel in Urumqi + 2 nights hotel in Yining + 5 nights camping

Tickets: Entry fees for all sites along the Wusun trail

Insurance: Travel insurance coverage up to RMB 500,000

Not Included

Transportation to and from Xinjiang

Flight from Urumqi to Yining

Each participant will receive a free cotton sleeping bag and a one-hour horseback riding experience.

30-person group

RMB 9,468
per person

20-person group

RMB 10,317
per person

10-person group

RMB 12,243
per person

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Day 1

Depart ✈ Urumqi
(Intl Grand Bazaar & Welcome Dinner)

Arrive in Urumqi, check in, enjoy a traditional Uyghur-style welcome dinner, then explore the Grand Bazaar and night market culture.

Day 2

Urumqi (Museum) ✈ Yining
(Six-Star St. & Kazakh Folk Street)

Visit Xinjiang Museum with guided tour on local history and culture. After lunch, fly to Yining to explore Kazakh cultural streets and vibrant local life.

Day 3 Hiking: 15km / approx. 6 hrs

Yining ~ Khunjerab Village (2000m) ~
Camp D1 (2800m)

Khunjerab is a scenic Yili village surrounded by snowy peaks and grasslands, known for nomadic culture and as the Wusun Trail starting point.

Depart at 8:00 AM by private car. Hike ~15km and camp based on conditions.

Day 4 Hiking: 20km / approx. 9 hrs

Camp D1 ~ Khunjerab Pass (3730m) ~
Camp D2 (3300m)

Today's trek is about 20km, taking around 9 hours. The route passes through grasslands, wilderness, and snowy scenery, ascending rocky trails layer by layer. At the Qiong Daban Pass, panoramic views unfold. Descend to the campsite takes about 1 more hour.

Day 5 Hiking: 25km / approx. 7 hrs

Camp D2 ~ Koks River ~ Tianshan Gorge ~
Camp D3 (2720m)

Trek along rivers and forests, through deep valleys and lush woods. Cross the turquoise Koks River to reach Camp D3.



Xinjiang Museum



Traditional Village in Ili



Qiong Daban Pass



Koks River


Day 6 Hiking: 15km / approx. 8 hrs

**Camp D3 ~ Grassland Station ~
Paradise Lake Camp (3050m)**

Arrive at Paradise Lake by 5PM after a 15km hike. This is the most scenic campsite along the route – perfect for rest and photo ops. Prepare for the toughest pass the next day.



Paradise Lake

Day 7 Hiking: 15km / approx. 8 hrs

**Camp D4 ~ Akbulak Pass (3860m) ~
Bogda River Valley Camp (2800m)**

Akbulak Pass is the highest and most challenging part of the trail, often snowy even in summer. After crossing, descend to the river valley and camp.



Akbulak Pass

Day 8 Hiking: 28km / approx. 9 hrs

**Camp D5 ~ Bogda Valley Exit (2180m) ~
Heiying Village (1930m) ~ Kuqa**

Long river-crossing day (30–50 times). Start at 9AM, reach the exit by 5–6PM. Change into water shoes often. Take private car to Kuqa for overnight stay.



Bozikirge Valley Entrance

Day 9

Kuqa ~ Urumqi ➡ Return Home

End of Wusun Trail trek. Guide will arrange airport transfer based on your flight.



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