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14 days Mt. Kailash Kora and Lake Manasarovar overland tour

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Lhasa
Shigatse
Saga
Manasarovar Lake
Mount Kailash Kora
Saga
Shigatse
Lhasa

Travel the same route as pilgrim departing from Lhasa to Mount Kailash. Upon arrival trek from Darchen to see the extraordinary peak of Mount Kailash, on the way enjoy a spectacular picture formed view with Manasarovar Lake.

Type
Private
Duration
14 days
Theme
Overland
Trip code
WT-301

Price
From \$ 1,610 per person
\$ 1,464
you save \$ 146 (10%)

Itinerary

The journey starts from the holy city Lhasa and then to Shigatse, where you can feel the different lifestyle and existing culture of the roof of the world. Monasteries and shrines are the centre of the religious faith, which plays an important role in their daily life since from thousand years. Then rest of the days the journey across the great Jangtang (Northern Plain) into Far-west Tibet passes through a land greatest extremes of dryness. The landscapes are huge and like a treeless moonscape. Lone groups of nomads dwelling in low, black tents, tend flocks of sheep and goats as well as herds of the yak. Heavily eroded sandstones and sand-dunes are beautiful along the road. The extraordinary peak of Mount Kailash is the prime focus of the journey, which lays at the heart of the region. It is the pilgrimage destinations of Buddhists, Bon, Hindus and Jains. Mt Kailash refers to the 'sacred mountain' in Tibetan and 'Heaven of Shiva' in Sanskrit (Siva is the god of Hinduism). It is the place where the religion of Bon is originated. According to the Indian epics Lomoyana and the Tibetan historic epics, History of Gangdise, people began to worship Mt Kailash as early as in 1000 B.C. As the Bon sutra goes, a river, which rose from Mt Kailash, flew into Lake Manasarovar, which meant 'unconquerable'. Then four great rivers, named after the four supernatural animals in paradise - the horse, lion, elephant and peacock, rose from the lake and flew to four directions. Mt. Kailash can be visited from Late April to December. Best time approach is May, June, July, September and October.

Day 01 :

Arrival at Lhasa [3,658m]

Upon arrival at Lhasa airport or train station, to be met and transferred to your hotel in Lhasa. Afternoon have a good rest to acclimatize the high altitude. Overnight at Lhasa. **(B)=breakfast**

Day 02 :

Lhasa City sightseeing, visit Potola Palace & Jokhang Temple

Today is your first day of sightseeing on the high plateau, so we have purposely arranged only to visit Jokhang temple and Potala Palace. Jokhang temple is the most sacred shrine in Tibet which was built in the 7th century, the circuit around it called Barkhor street, which is a good place to purchase souvenirs. Potala Palace is the worldwide known cardinal landmark of Tibet. The massive structure itself contains a small world within it. Mostly it is renowned as residence of the Dalai Lama lineages (Avalokiteshvara). Both of them are the focal points of pilgrims from the Tibetan world, multitudinous pilgrims are circumambulating and prostrating in their strong faith. Overnight at Lhasa.

Day 03 :

Lhasa City sightseeing, visit Drepung monastery, Sera monastery

Today you will be arranged to visit Drepung, Sera monasteries. Both Drepung and Sera monasteries are Gelugpa (yellow hat) sect monastic colleges. Drepung monastery was the seat of the Government prior to Potala, it was once the world largest monastery in the history with 10,000 monks hailed from different monasteries all over Tibet. Sera monastery is famous for its Buddhism philosophical debate practice, the clapping sound and aggressive expression of the monks are well worth to see. Overnight at Lhasa.

Day 04 :

Lhasa(3,600m) / Yamdrok lake(4,300m) / Gyantse (3,900m) / Shigatse (3,800m). 360KM, 7hour drive

Morning drive up to Kampa pass (4794m), you will have a glimpse of Yamdrok-tso and spectacular views of Holy Mount Nyenchen Khangsar in the distance, the turquoise-colored Lake Yamdrok tso is one of the three holy lakes in Tibet, the unforgettable vista of pincer-shaped turquoise water of the lake and amazing spectacle of Mt. Nyenchen Khangsar glacier from Karo la pass is wonders of the day. Then along the Friendship southern Hwy drive to Gyantse, visit the famous stupa - Gyantse Kumbum, the most stunning architectural wonder in Tibet. Late afternoon drive to Shigatse. Overnight at Shigatse.

Day 05 :

Shigatse(3,800m) / Sakya / Lhatse(200KM, 5hrs)

Morning you will be arranged to visit Tashilunpo Monastery and the spectacular tombs of Panchen Lamas, monks of this monastery are nice looking with their home-made traditional shoes. Then drive to Sakya, visit Sakya Monastery, which is the main monastery at Sakyapa, hike around the monastery northern ruins. Late afternoon drive to Lhatse. Overnight at Lhatse.

Day 06 :

Lhatse / Saga(4,500m)(300KM, 7hrs)

Today drive from Lhatse to Saga, pass several high plateau lakes, towns, herders tents and along the route with plateau mountain ranges, diverse forms of mountains are overlooking through the valley. Overnight at Saga.

Day 07 :

Saga(4600m) / Paryang(4750m) / Darchen (4600m) (490Km, 7-8 hours)

Morning drive from Saga to Paryang, you weave your way through small dusty town of Zhongba amidst enchanting panoramic views, dotted nomads tents are mingled with their herds of animals on the open plateau. Pass numbers of villages and camps of Yak herders with the distance view of snow-capped mountains, cross the Mayun-la pass (5216m), if lucky might see many wild animals at the plateau grasslands. Prepare for the following days trekking.

Day 08 :

Trek from Darchen to Dira-puk Monastery, (20km, 6hrs)

The first day's trekking is starting from the Sershong and a gradual walk with multitudes of other local pilgrims chanting and praying. From the valley you can see the Choku Monastery up on the hillside. The trail leads to few ups and downs till you reach the camp at Dirapuk (4,750 m). You will meet many more Bon pilgrims going in the opposite direction (Anticlock-wise), because Mt. Kailash is being worshipped by four different religions, via Buddhisms, Bons, Hindus and Jains. Overnight at Dirapuk guesthouse or camping.

Day 09 :

Trek from Dira-puk Monastery to Dzutul-puk Monastery by crossing Drolma-la Pass, (15KM, 6 - 7hrs)

Today your trekking leads to much higher side of the holy path just beneath the Mount Kailash. The walk will bring you to one of the highest point at Drolma La(5200m), and the pass is quickly descending to the gradual field towards Dzutul-puk for the overnight camp, Dzutul Puk in Tibetan and which means magical cave, this small monastery is connected to a interesting story of talent competition between Great Yogi Milarepa(Buddhist) and Naropa(Bon). Overnight at Dzutul-Puk guesthouse.

Day 10 :

Trek back to Darchen, 14Km, 2-3 hours trekking / Drive to Lake Manasarovar

The winding gradually comes out of the valley and the river allows to follow into the Barka plain, the trekking stops at Trangser Trangmar and your car take you to Darchen. After a short rest at Darchen, you will be arranged to drive about 50km to Lake Manasarovar, one of the three holy lakes in Tibet. Climb up to Chiu monastery and have a good view of the lake or wander along the lakeshore to have a relaxing afternoon. Overnight at the local guesthouse near Chiu monastery (dorm bed).

Day 11 :

Lake Manasarovar / Paryang / Saga (480KM, 7hours)

Today drive back to Saga retracing the same route, you will have a last view of the Mt.Kailash on the way. Overnight at Saga.

Day 12 :

Saga / Shigatse (456km, 7-8 hrs)

Today start drive back to Shigatse. Overnight at Shigatse.

Day 13 :

Shigatse / Lhasa (280KM, about 6 hours driving)

Morning start driving back to Lhasa from Shigatse via northern friendship highway, driving along Yarlungtsangpo river and enjoys its beautiful scenery. Overnight at Lhasa .

Day 14 :

Lhasa airport/ train station dropping off

Morning Lhasa airport or train station dropping off, the time come to say your farewells to your guide and driver, end the trip.

Prices

Period

2 Persons

3 Persons

4-6 Persons

Apr. to Jun and late Oct.

Regular price\$ 2,491\$ 1,884\$ 1,610

Sale price \$ 2,265\$ 1,712\$ 1,464

Jul. to mid Oct.

Regular price\$ 2,734\$ 2,096\$ 1,777

Sale price \$ 2,486\$ 1,906\$ 1,616

Inclusions

Tour notes:

Please note prices are based in CNY.

General inclusions:

All required government taxes and fees.

Please contact one of our Tour Advisors to get a custom quotation made to your requirements.

All required Tibet permits and domestic travel documents.

Necessary oxygen and medicine for the acute high altitude sickness.

Where possible 3 star hotels will always be provided, if the city or town does not have then the local guest house or monastery guest house will be provided (i.e. tent / dormitory bed, no private bathroom etc.)

All entrance tickets as noted in the tour's itinerary.

Guide fluent in English, Chinese or Japanese that is certified by the state tourism build and from the local community. (If your native language is not listed please let us know, we are certain we can assist your needs.)

Airport and/or train station pick-up and drop-off.

Transportation will be provided via a comfortable and clean car, minivan or tourist bus depending upon the groups size.

Comfortable and clean 7/8 seats minivan for groups of 5 persons or less; for larger groups minibus and tourist coach are available.

General exclusions:

Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, internet access, fax, telephone calls etc.

Tips for your guide and driver.

Meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary.

Optional Attractions that are not specified in the itinerary.

Flight tickets or train tickets in and out of Lhasa (Please note: We can offer you train and/or plane tickets in and out Lhasa from all cities within China. Please check the latest price with us via email.)

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