



 @visitshaanxi    @visitshaanxi    @visit\_shaanxi    @visitshaanxi

陕西省文化和旅游厅

Shaanxi Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism  
<http://whhlyt.shaanxi.gov.cn/>

Starting Point of Silk Road  
Hometown of Terra-Cotta Warriors



世 界 遗 产 在 陕 西

WORLD HERITAGE  
IN SHAANXI

陕西省文化和旅游厅

Shaanxi Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism

# PREFACE



## Illustration



Address



Telephone



Ticket



OpeningHours



Transportation

- The information in this booklet is as of December 2021. If there is any change, please refer to the latest information.
- The ticket information provided in this booklet is about the adult ticket. Please refer to the announcement of the scenic spot for other discounts and ticket.
- The peak season in Shaanxi is spring and summer (from March to November), and the off season is autumn and winter (from November to March of the next year). The ticket price and opening hours vary between peak season and off season.
- Most museums are closed on Monday (except holidays). Reservations are required for some scenic spots.



# Preface



World heritage is a treasure for all mankind. China has many breathtaking world heritage sites and precious imprints of civilization. As of June 2022, China has 56 World Heritage Sites, ranking the highest in the world.

Shaanxi has played an extremely important role in the long history of Chinese civilization. It is one of the important birthplaces of the Chinese nation and the Chinese culture. Xi'an, the capital city of the province, was the capital of more than 10 dynasties, including the Zhou, Qin, Han and Tang Dynasties, and has a history of 1,300 years. There are more than 50,000 cultural relics sites in Shaanxi, which carry the historical memory of the Chinese nation.

In Shaanxi, there are nine sites in three "world heritage sites" officially recognized by the UNESCO. The magnificent Terracotta Warriors and Horses of the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor, the Silk Road stretching for thousands of years, the palaces and temples shining with great splendor, and the ancient temples, pagodas, statues and murals inside, all tell the story of heroic spirit of the Qin and Han Dynasties and the charm of the Tang Dynasty.

Adhering to the concept of "bringing alive the cultural relics collected in museums, the heritage displayed on the vast land, and the words written in ancient books" (a quotation from Xi Jinping), this booklet is for tourists who love history and are keen to explore Shaanxi and provides relevant information services. Welcome to Shaanxi and experience the lasting charm carried by this land.



# C O N T E N T S

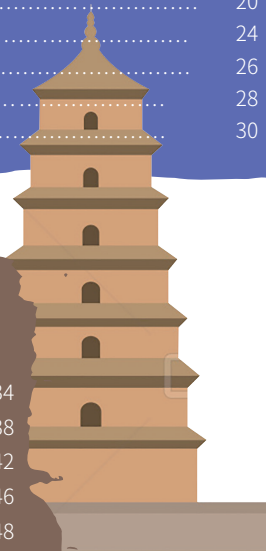


## Chapter 1 World Heritage Sites (WHSs) in Shaanxi

|                                                                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor and Pit of Terracotta Warriors and Horses, .....  | 02 |
| Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor (Shaanxi Section) ..... | 08 |
| Site of Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Western Han Dynasty, .....            | 10 |
| Site of Daming Palace in Chang'an City of Tang Dynasty, .....                        | 12 |
| The Big Wild Goose Pagoda, .....                                                     | 16 |
| The Small Wild Goose Pagoda, .....                                                   | 20 |
| Xingjiao Temple Pagoda, .....                                                        | 24 |
| The Great Buddha Temple Grottoes, .....                                              | 26 |
| Tomb of Zhang Qian, .....                                                            | 28 |
| The Great Wall (Shaanxi section) .....                                               | 30 |

## Chapter 2 Tentative List of WHSs in Shaanxi

|                                                                                           |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Xi'an City Wall (Ming and Qing Dynasty City Wall), .....                                  | 34 |
| Western Han Imperial Mausoleums (11 tombs), .....                                         | 38 |
| Imperial Mausoleums of the Tang Dynasty (18 tombs), .....                                 | 42 |
| Mount Huashan (one of the Five Great Mountains in China), .....                           | 46 |
| Dangjia Village Ancient Architectural Complex (Shanshan Ancient Residential Houses) ..... | 48 |
| Ruins of Tongwan City, Jingbian County, .....                                             | 50 |
| Shimao Ruins, Shenmu County, .....                                                        | 52 |



World Heritage Sites in



### Chapter 3 WHS Tours

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Silk Roads Tours .....        | 56 |
| Qin Culture Tours .....       | 60 |
| Han Culture Tours .....       | 62 |
| Tang Culture Tours .....      | 64 |
| Eastern Shaanxi Routes .....  | 66 |
| Southern Shaanxi Routes ..... | 68 |
| Western Shaanxi Routes .....  | 69 |
| Northern Shaanxi Route .....  | 70 |

### Chapter 4 Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in Shaanxi

|                                                                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Intangible Cultural Heritage .....                                                   | 73 |
| Xi'an Drum Music .....                                                               | 74 |
| Chinese Paper Cutting .....                                                          | 76 |
| Chinese Shadow Puppetry .....                                                        | 78 |
| Traditional Tea Making Techniques and the Associated Social Practices in China ..... | 80 |

### Particularly Recommended

|                                                                |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Huangdi Mausoleum .....                                        | 90 |
| Zhouyuan Site .....                                            | 91 |
| Ancient Shu Roads of Qin .....                                 | 92 |
| Qin Capital City and Mausoleum site .....                      | 93 |
| Straight Road of Qin .....                                     | 94 |
| Zhengguo Canal, Hanzhong Three Weirs, and Longshou Canal ..... | 95 |
| Buddhist Ancestral Temple .....                                | 96 |
| Jiaxian Ancient Date Garden .....                              | 98 |





▲ Mausoleum of Emperor Qinshihuang, Terracotta Warriors

# Chapter 1

## World Heritage Sites (WHSS) in Shaanxi



World heritage refers to the rare and irreplaceable wealth of mankind recognized by the UNESCO and the World Heritage Committee. It is cultural relics and natural landscape with outstanding significance and universal value recognized by all mankind. At present, the following projects in Shaanxi Province have been included in the World Heritage List:

### **Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor (including Terracotta Warriors)**

### **Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor (Shaanxi Section)**

- Site of Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Western Han Dynasty
- Site of Daming Palace in Chang'an City of Tang Dynasty
- The Big Wild Goose Pagoda
- The Small Wild Goose Pagoda
- Xingjiao Temple Pagoda
- The Great Buddha Temple Grottoes
- Tomb of Zhang Qian

### **The Great Wall (Shaanxi section)**





▲ Terracotta Warriors Pit No. 1



**Qinshihuang Ying Zheng** (259 B.C.-210 B.C.) was the first emperor in China. He established the first multi-ethnic, unified and centralized feudal state in Chinese history-the Qin Dynasty. After he succeeded to the throne at the age of 13, he began to build the tomb for himself, the construction of which lasted nearly 40 years and recruited 720,000 craftsmen.

## Heritage Information

Heritage Name: Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor and Pit of Terracotta Warriors and Horses

Construction Time: 247 BC-208 BC

Purpose: The tomb of Ying Zheng, First Emperor of Qin

- **In 247 BC**  
the construction of the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor began.
- **In 208 BC**  
the construction of the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor was completed.
- **In 1961**  
the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor became one of the first batch of Important Heritage Site under State Protection.
- **In 1974**  
Terracotta Warriors and Horses were discovered by accident in 1974.
- **In 1979**  
the Museum of the Terracotta Warriors and Horses of Qin Shihuang was completed and opened to visitors.
- **In 1980**  
bronze chariots and horses were unearthed from the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor.
- **In 1987**  
the Mausoleum of Qinshihuang and the pit of Terracotta Warriors and Horses were added to the World Heritage List.
- **In 2007**  
the Museum of the Terracotta Warriors and Horses of Qin Shihuang was rated as a "national 5A-rated Tourist Attraction".
- **In 2010**  
Qin Shi Huang Mausoleum Ruins Park was completed and opened.
- **In 2011**  
the Acrobatics Figurines Pit (K9901) and the Civil Figurines Pit (K0006) were officially opened to the public.





### ▲ Protection of Terracotta Warriors and Horses with Coloured Drawings after Restoration

Terracotta Warriors and Horses were originally colored. Due to the burning of the pit and the limitations of early archaeological protection technology, the colors of Terracotta Warriors and Horses fell off within a few minutes when they were unearthed after being buried in the ground for more than 2,000 years. Therefore, most of Terracotta Warriors and Horses seen today are "dusty". The remnants of the painted terracotta warriors can be seen in Pit 3.





## Heritage Highlight

### ● The Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor Qin Shi Huang

The Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor is the largest mausoleum with the most relics in China, with a proven area of 56.25 square km. The mausoleum is tall and majestic, surrounded by a large number of historical and cultural relics, and so far Terracotta Warriors and Horses, bronze horses and chariots, bronze waterfowl, stone armor, Acrobatics Figurines and other precious cultural relics have been unearthed. Beneath the mausoleum is the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor Underground Palace, where Qin Shi Huang's coffin was placed, and which has yet to be excavated. According to historical records, the Underground Palace of Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor is a grand and magnificent underground kingdom and a huge treasure bank.

### ● Terracotta Warriors and Horses are known as the "eighth wonder of the world".

Terracotta Warriors and Horses and Horses have been included in the World Heritage List together with the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor, which is regarded as "the eighth wonder of the world" and "one of the great archaeological discoveries of the 20th century". At present, there are three pits of Terracotta Warriors and Horses on display, with a total area of more than 20,000 square meters. There are nearly 8,000 statues of Terracotta Warriors and Horses and more than 100 chariots. They simulate the arrangement of ancient armies and form a huge military scene. With an average height of 180 cm and "thousands of different faces", Terracotta Warriors and Horses perfectly embody the realistic art of ancient China.

### ● The bronze chariots and horses of the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor are known as the "champion of bronze".

The bronze chariots and horses are the most complex and targets ancient bronze ware found in the archaeological history of China. It is made according to the ratio of 1:2 of real people, real horses and real carriages to the wares. In the design, casting, processing, connection, assembly and other steps, the bronze chariots and horses are more exquisite than many modern complex mechanical manufacturing, showing the ancient artificial technology. The two chariots were broken into more than 3,000 pieces when unearthed. After nearly eight years of restoration by experts, they were restored to their original appearance.



▲ Bronze Chariot and Horse of Qin Mausoleum



## Tour Guide

The Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum is dominated by the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor and many burial pits, including the Museum of the Terracotta Warriors and Horses of Qin Shihuang and the Qin Shi Huang Mausoleum Ruins Park, namely Lishan Garden.

### ● Museum of the Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses of Qin Shihuang

#### ➤ Terracotta Warriors and Horses Pit No. 1

It is the iconic building of Qin Shi Huang's Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum.

Terracotta Warriors and Horses Pit No. 1, the largest of three pits (larger than two football fields) was discovered by chance in 1974 by local farmers digging a well. If all are excavated, it is estimated that more than 6,000 terracotta statues and more than 50 chariots will be unearthed.

#### ➤ Terracotta Warriors and Horses Pit No. 2

With complete arms, it is the essence of Terracotta Warriors and Horses pits.

A multi-military array of cavalry, chariots and infantry was found. Among them, the terra-cotta figures of generals, equipped horses and kneeling crossbowmen were found for the first time. At present, a large area of the second pit on display is the shed wood layer (the roof of the underground building in those days).

#### ➤ Terracotta Warriors and Horses Pit No. 3

Colorful Terracotta Warriors and Horses were unearthed.

On a small scale, it is the earliest military command in the Age of Discovery in the history of world archaeology. Among the three pits, it is the only one that was not burned by fire, so a lot of coloured drawings on the terracotta statues were still remaining when they were excavated.

#### ➤ The Exhibition Gallery

There are basic contents such as museum history display, as well as a temporary exhibition hall for holding special exhibitions of fine cultural relics at home and abroad.



▲ Kneeling Archer figures

### ● Qin Shi Huang Mausoleum Ruins Park (Lishan Garden)

#### ➤ Grave Mound of the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor

The tall mound in the south of Lishan Garden is the mausoleum of the First Emperor of Qin. The interior of the underground palace is still an unsolved mystery, which can only be imagined relying on historical documents now.

#### ➤ Museum of Bronze Chariots and Horses of Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor

It mainly displays the bronze chariots and horses from the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor, known as the "champion of bronze". The museum, completed in 2021, has a full sense of technology, and visitors can experience interesting interactive projects such as VR carriage driving.

#### ➤ Burial Pit K0006(Terracotta Civil Officers Pit)

This rare unburned burial pit in the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor unearthed 12 terracotta statues.

#### ➤ Burial Pit K9901(Terracotta Acrobats Pit)

The 11 clay statues unearthed in the pit are naked in the upper body and wear colorful skirts, with different postures. Unlike Terracotta Warriors and Horses, these terracotta statues are more like court acrobats, with the styles first found in the archaeological work of the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor.



▲ Civilian figures



▲ Qinshihuang Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum

## Tourist Information

### Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum

- 📍 North Qinling Road, Lintong District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-81399174
- ¥ CNY 120 (including visits to Qin Shi Huang's Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum and Lishan Garden)
- 🕒 8:30-17:00 in peak season 8:30-16:30 in off season
- 🚌 Taking Xi'an Metro Line 9 to Huaqingchi Station, transferring to the bus or tourist bus

### Tips:

- The Qin Shi Huang's Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum is about 2 km from Lishan Garden.
- Both tours will take about 1.5 hours.
- Visitors can take a free shuttle bus with the ticket.



Official Weibo



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### Huaqing Palace Scenic Area

It is 9km from the Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum

- 📍 No.38, North Huaqing Road, Lishan, Lintong District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-83812004
- ¥ CNY 120

### Performance of Song of Everlasting Sorrow

You must see it! It is Shaanxi's most representative live-action performance.

- 📍 Huaqing Palace Scenic Area, Lintong District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-83818888
- ¥ Starting at CNY 238

### Jia Pingwa Cultural Museum of Art

It is 13 km from the Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum.

- 📍 No.9, Zhiyang 3rd Road, Lintong District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-81370923
- ¥ Free

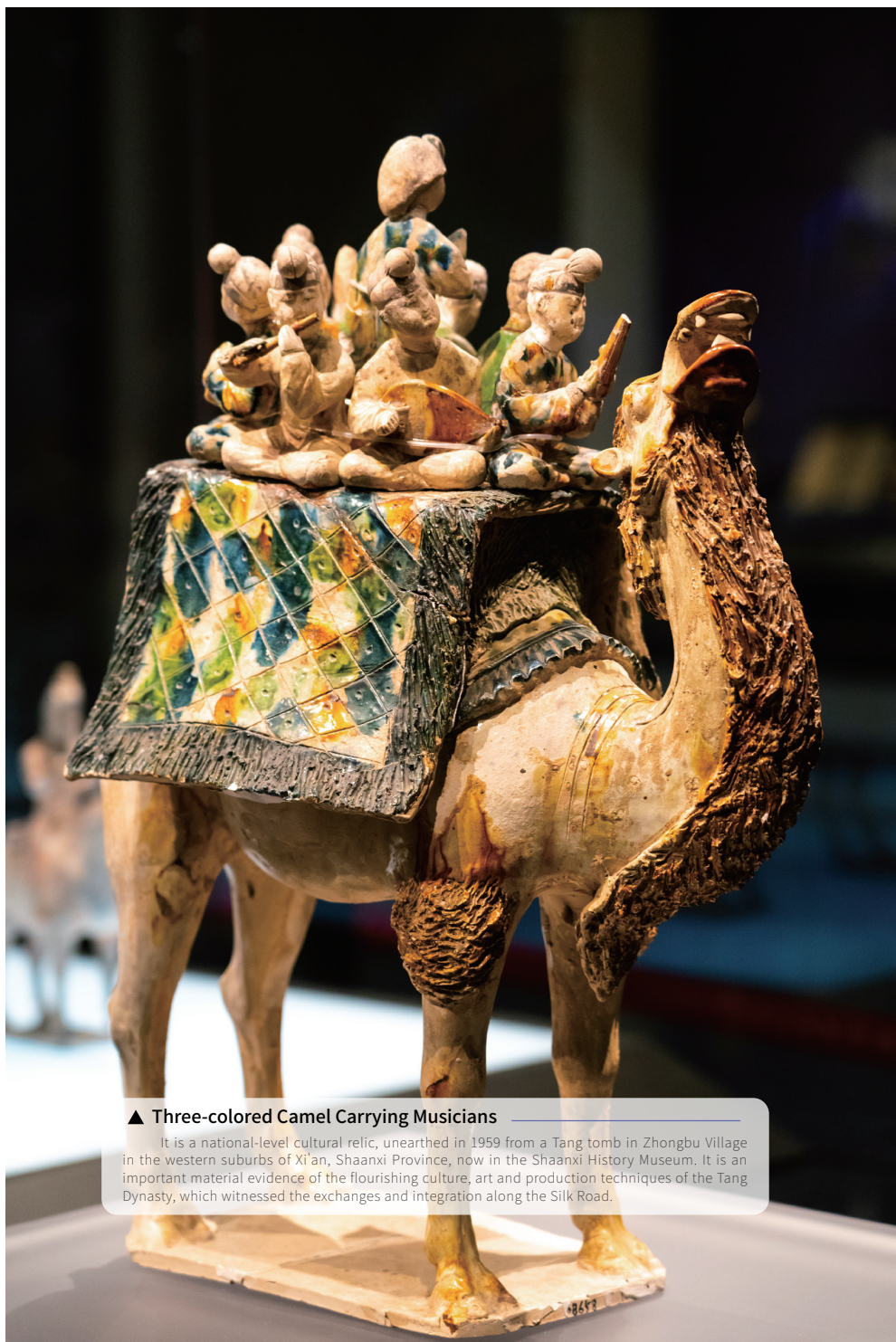
### Emperor Qin II Mausoleum Ruins Park

It is the mausoleum of Huhai, the second and the last emperor of the Qin Dynasty.

It is 45 km from the Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum.

- 📍 No.252, South Qujiangchi Road, Yanta District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-85428866
- ¥ Free





### ▲ Three-colored Camel Carrying Musicians

It is a national-level cultural relic, unearthed in 1959 from a Tang tomb in Zhongbu Village in the western suburbs of Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, now in the Shaanxi History Museum. It is an important material evidence of the flourishing culture, art and production techniques of the Tang Dynasty, which witnessed the exchanges and integration along the Silk Road.



## Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor (Shaanxi Section)



### Heritage Information

Heritage Name: Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor

Formation Time: 2nd century BC-1st century AD

Size of the Heritage: a total length of nearly 5,000 km



Shaanxi is the starting point of the Silk Road. More than 2,000 years ago, Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty sent Zhang Qian on a diplomatic mission from Chang'an to the Western Regions, opening up a transportation road in the Western Regions with silk trade as the medium, pioneering the exchange of trade and commerce and cultural, political, economic and diplomatic exchanges and cooperation between the East and the West.

In 2014, China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan jointly applied for the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor", which was successfully added to the World Heritage List. There are 33 representative sites along the route, including the ruins of central towns, commercial cities, traffic sites, religious sites and the related sites, with a traffic span of nearly 5,000 km. Among them, there are 22 sites in China and 7 sites in Shaanxi, which are:

- **The site of Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty (Xi'an City)** was the decision-making place and starting place for Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty to send Zhang Qian to the Western Regions as an envoy, which has witnessed the important historical achievements of the opening of the Silk Road by the Han Empire.

- **The site of the Daming Palace in Chang'an City of the Tang Dynasty (Xi'an City)** is the power center of the Tang Dynasty, which has witnessed the important role of the economic, political, military and cultural strength of the powerful empire in promoting the prosperity of the Silk Road.

- **The Big Wild Goose Pagoda (Xi'an City)** was built to preserve the Buddhist statues and relics brought back to Chang'an by Xuanzang, a famous monk of the Tang Dynasty, through the Silk Road in India. The inscription below the pagoda records the history of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda and the spread of Buddhism along the Silk Road.

- **The Small Wild Goose Pagoda (Xi'an City)** was built to preserve the Buddhist statues brought back by the eminent monk Yijing who traveled westward along the sea route in the Tang Dynasty, which witnessed the popularity of Buddhism in Chang'an in the Tang Dynasty.

- **The Xingjiao Temple Pagodas (Xi'an City)** is the stupa of Master Xuanzang and his disciples, Kuiji and Yance, showing the development of Buddhism after it spread to Chang'an along the Silk Road and its influence on the Korean Peninsula.

- **Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes (in Binzhou City, Xianyang City)** is a Buddhist grotto temple along the Silk Road in the Tang Dynasty, which reflects the spread of Buddhism to the east and the popularity of stone carving art in the Guanzhong area (the central Shaanxi plain).

- **The Tomb of Zhang Qian (in Chenggu County, Hanzhong City)** is the tomb of Zhang Qian, the pioneer of the Silk Road, which is closely related to the Silk Road.





▲ Weiyang Palace Site

## Heritage Information

Heritage Name: Site of Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of Western Han Dynasty  
Construction Time: 200 BC-198 BC  
Purpose: Royal palace

### In 200 BC

the Emperor Gaozu of the Han Dynasty Liu Bang began to build the Han Chang'an City.

### In 198 BC

the Weiyang Palace was officially completed and became the residence of the Han emperors.

### In 581

Emperor Wen of the Sui Dynasty built the city of Daxing, and Chang'an was gradually abandoned.

### In 1961

the Weiyang Palace Site became one of the first batch of the important heritage sites under state protection.

### In 1980

the archaeological exploration and excavation of the Weiyang Palace Site in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty began in an all-round way.

### In 2014

it was added to the World Heritage List as the site of the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor".

### In 2021

the first phase of Chang'an Weiyang Palace of the Han Dynasty National Archaeological Site Park was completed and opened.



## Heritage Highlight

In 139 B. C, Zhang Qian was sent to the Western Regions by Emperor Wu at Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty, starting his "opening-a-way journey".

As one of the largest, oldest and most influential ancient palaces in Chinese history, the Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty was the political, economic, military and cultural center of the Western Han Empire, as well as the decision-making, origin and command center of the "Silk Road". The shape and structure of Weiyang Palace had a profound influence on later imperial palace architecture and laid the basic pattern of imperial palace architecture in China for more than 2000 years.



## Tour Guide

Chang'an Weiyang Palace of the Han Dynasty National Archaeological Site Park, built on the Site of the Weiyang Palace, has opened an area of 3.2 square km, and the scenic spot provides sightseeing buses and bicycle rental services.

### ● Weiyang Palace Site

#### ➤ Ruins of Front Hall Emperor's Office

It is the main building of the Weiyang Palace, the main hall the emperors of the Western Han Dynasty held state affairs. Ascending to the front hall, and you can look down at the whole Weiyang Palace.

#### ➤ Ruins of Jiaofang Palace Queen's Residence

It is located 330 meters north of the Front Hall site, and the first empress who lived in this hall was Lv Zhi, empress of Liu Bang, the founding emperor of the Western Han Dynasty.

#### ➤ Ruins of Young Mansion

It is located 430 meters northwest of the Front Hall site, and a large area of flooring was found in the site, the first of its kind in the excavation of ancient palace buildings. In the Han Dynasty, the Young Mansion was in charge of royal finances.

#### ➤ Ruins of Tianlu Library

Located 600 meters north of the Front Hall site, it is the place where imperial classics were collected in the Han Dynasty, and it is the earliest national library in China.

#### ➤ Ruins of the Central Office

It is located 850 meters west of the Front Hall site, and a large number of bone slices with characters have been unearthed, which are precious cultural relics.

### ● Farmland Landscape

A large farmland landscape and a sea of flowers are a major feature of the park. Visitors can appreciate flowers in the Cangchi Pool, Mingqu Road and other areas. A tent camping area is set up on the east lawn of Nangongmen Street. Visitors can also rent Han Chinese Clothing at the park.

## Tourist Information

### Chang'an Weiyang Palace of the Han Dynasty National Archaeological Site Park

📍 Dengliu Road, Weiyang District, Xi'an

☎ 029-86380088

💰 Free

🕒 09:00-18:00



Two-dimensional Code of the Scenic Spot

#### 💡 Tips:

There are seven parking lots in the park, which are located on the northern and southern side of Dengliu Road, Lixi Road, Zhongcheng Gate and the west entrance of Fengjing Road on the West Third Ring Road.

## Attractions Nearby

### Han Chang'an City Palace of Eternal Happiness Ruins

It is about 4 km from Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty

📍 It is about 4 km from Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty

💰 Free

### Hancheng Lake Scenic Area

It is about 7 km from the Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty

📍 Northwest Corner of Zhuhong Road, North 2nd Ring Road, Weiyang District, Xi'an

☎ 029-86483430

💰 Free

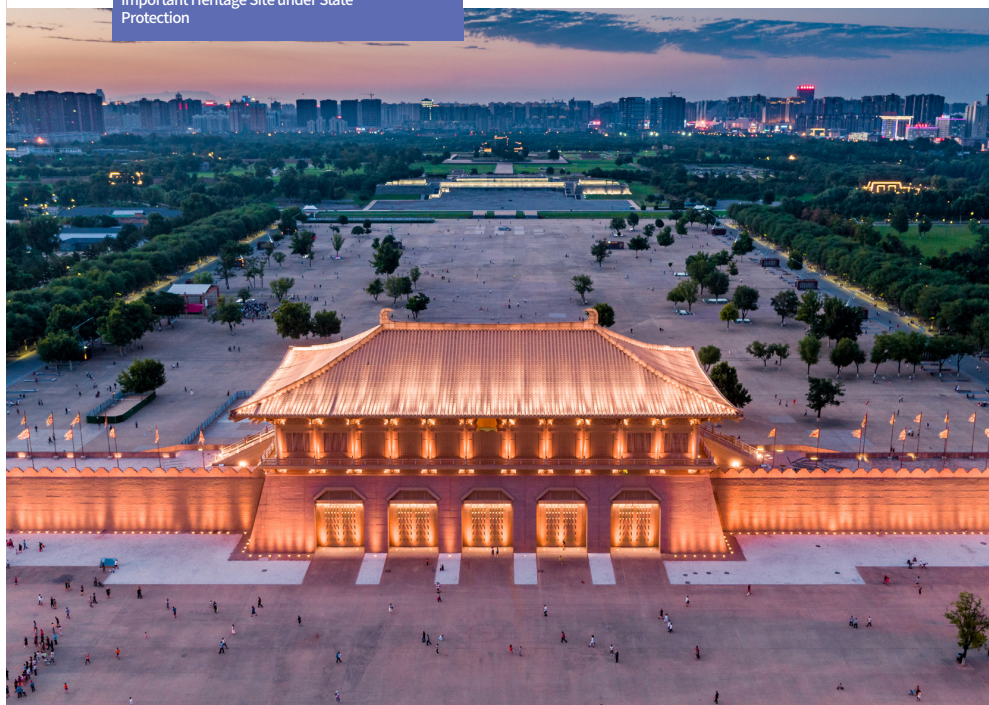




## Site of the Daming Palace in Chang'an City of the Tang Dynasty



National 5A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State Protection



▲ Daming Palace Danfeng Gate



## Heritage Highlight

The Daming Palace Site of Chang'an City of the Tang Dynasty is the representative architectural remains of Chang'an City. As the political center and national symbol of the Tang Dynasty, the Daming Palace is the largest of the three palaces (the Palace of Supreme Being, the Daming Palace and the Xingqing Palace) in Chang'an City. It is known as the Oriental Temple of God of the "Silk Road". Now the site still retained overall pattern of the Daming Palace, and tourists can visit the spectacular Danfeng Gate and "Hanyuan Hall-XuanZheng Hall-Zichen Hall" sites on the central axis, taste the phenomenon of prosperous Tang Dynasty in the Daming Palace, experience the life of the Tang Dynasty in an immersive way at the high-tech Daming Palace Heritage Museum, the Ancient Exploration Center and the Cultural Digital Experience Center.



▲ The site of Zichen Hall of the Daming Palace

## Heritage Information

Heritage Name: Site of the Daming Palace in Chang'an City of the Tang Dynasty  
Year of Initial Construction: AD 634  
Purpose: Royal palace

### In 634

Emperor Taizong of Tang built the Summer Palace "Yong'an Palace", which was later renamed "Daming Palace".

### In 662

the Daming Palace was greatly expanded and became the ruling center of the Tang Dynasty.

### In 904

the Daming Palace was repeatedly attacked and finally destroyed in war.

### In 1961

the Daming Palace Site became one of the important heritage sites under state protection.

### From 1980 to 1984

the Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences initially restored the Daming Palace Site.

### In 2003

the preservation project of the Hanyuan Palace Site was completed.

### In 2010

the main work of the Danfeng Gate Site protection and exhibition project was completed, and Daming Palace Heritage Park was completed and opened.

### In 2014

it was added to the World Heritage List as the site of the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor".

### In 2020

the Daming Palace Tourist Attraction was rated as a "national 5A-rated Tourist Attraction".



## Tour Guide

Daming Palace Heritage Park built on the basis of the ruins is a complex of "ruins and park", divided into charging areas and free areas, to display the charm of Tang culture through landscapes, films, performances, museums and so on.

### ● Heritage Protection Area (Ticket of CNY 60)

#### ➤ Danfeng Gate Heritage Museum -----

Tourists can see this magnificent building at first sight when they leave the north square of Xi'an Railway Station.

In the Tang Dynasty, Danfeng Gate was called "the gate of the capital". It had the highest rank among the gates of the Sui and Tang Dynasties, and it was also the place where the emperors ascended the throne, conferred titles, and proclaimed amnesty. In the Danfeng Gate Heritage Museum you can see the Tang Dynasty Danfeng Gate abutment and pier ruins and unearthed exhibits.

#### ➤ Daming Palace Heritage Park -----

The museum is full sense of high-tech, where you can face to face see Li Shimin's AI holographic image and experience the life of the glorious age of the Tang Dynasty in an immersive way.



#### ➤ The Ruins of Hanyuan Hall -----

The main hall of the Daming Palace, built on the highest point of Longshouyuan, is the place where national ceremonies were held.

#### ➤ The Ruins of Zichen Hall -----

The northernmost of the three main halls on the central axis of the Daming Palace, is where the emperor's daily office was located.

#### ➤ The Ruins of Xuanzheng Hall -----

The second hall of the Daming Palace from the south on the central axis, was the place where state administration was handled in the Tang Dynasty, and it was the real power center.

#### ➤ The Miniature Landscape -----

More than 1,100 palace buildings have been exquisitely carved at a ratio of 1:15, perfectly restoring the pavilions, terraces and towers of the Daming Palace.

#### ➤ Taiye Pool -----

Located to the north of Hanyuan Hall, it is the most important royal garden in the Tang Dynasty, and the place for the emperors, the empresses and imperial concubines to live and relax.

### ● Cultural Experience Area (requiring a separate ticket)



#### ➤ Archeological Center -----

Research and Study Tour Recommendation

Opening the exhibition from the perspective of "archeologists", the exhibition simulates archaeological sites and cultural relics restoration projects, showing the work of archaeologists in all aspects. Visitors can experience and explore the mysteries of archaeology by themselves (Adult Ticket is CNY 50; Child Ticket is CNY 25)

#### ➤ Cultural Digital Experience Center -----

There are three theme theaters: immersive holographic theater, immersive pilot theater and children's holographic theater, as well as places for cultural leisure such as the coffee leisure area and cultural and creative theme shop. The immersive film "Palace of a Thousand Palaces" (CNY 35), and the children's interactive stage play "Pony's Adventures in the Palace of Daming" (CNY 35).



## ● Ticket: Free

### ➤ National Fitness Park

The large green space of the periphery of the park is a good place for public visitors to exercise, run, walk, go hiking and camp.

### ➤ Eastern and Western Cultural and Creative Shop in the Palace

You can choose interesting cultural and creative products, order a cup of coffee, enjoy the exclusive afternoon tea of the Daming Palace, and experience the leisure time in the style of the glorious age of the Tang Dynasty.



▲ Souvenirs of the Daming Palace



▲ Taiye Pool in the Daming Palace

## Tourist Information

### Daming Palace Heritage Park

📍 No.585, Ziqiang East Road, Xincheng District, Xi'an

☎ 029-82200808

¥ CNY 60 (Visitors can visit the scenic spots in the heritage reserve)

🕒 08:30-19:00

🚇 Taking Xi'an Metro Line 4 to Hanyuandian Station and Daminggong Station, and Xi'an Metro Line 2 to Anyuanmen Station



Official Weibo



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### Dahua · 1935

About 100 meters from Daming Palace Heritage Park

Transformed from a textile mill into an artistic and leisure block

📍 No.251, Taihua South Road, Xincheng District, Xi'an

☎ 029-82516318

### Xi'an City Wall (Anyuan Gate)

It is about 2 km from Daming Palace Heritage Park.

📍 Intersection of North Street and Huancheng North Road, Xincheng District, Xi'an

☎ 029-87272792

¥ CNY 54





▲ The Big Wild Goose Pagoda



## The Big Wild Goose Pagoda

National 5A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State Protection

### Heritage Information

Heritage Name: The Big Wild Goose Pagoda  
Construction Time: AD 652  
Purpose: To consecrate sutra image and sarira

#### In 652

Xuanzang built the Big Wild Goose Pagoda in order to worship the sutras and relics retrieved from India. It was originally built with five floors.

#### Between 701 and 704

Empress Wu Zetian raised the pagoda to 10 stories.

#### In 1604

during the Ming Dynasty, large-scale repairs were made to the pagoda in its present form.

#### In 1961

the Big Wild Goose Pagoda became one of the important heritage sites under state protection.

#### In 1998

Master Shi Wujian, an Indian overseas Chinese originally from Shaanxi Province, donated two Buddhist relics to the pagoda.

#### In 2011

the Big Wild Goose Pagoda and Tang Paradise Scenic Area was rated as a "national 5A-rated Tourist Attraction".

#### In 2014

it was added to the World Heritage List as the site of the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor".

### Heritage Highlight

The Big Wild Goose Pagoda was built to honor the Buddha statues, relics and Sanskrit classics brought back to Chang'an by Xuanzang, a famous monk in the Tang Dynasty, who traveled to India along the Silk Road for Buddhist scriptures. As a landmark of Chang'an City of the Tang Dynasty, the Big Wild Goose Pagoda has become an urban landmark of Xi'an and an important witness of Xuanzang's westward journey and the sinification of Buddhism.

The Big Wild Goose Pagoda is China's earliest and largest square brick pagoda of loft style. There are two monuments on the bottom, written by emperor Taizong and the emperor Li Zhi, respectively Sanzang Sacred Teaching Foreword Monument and Sanzang Sacred Teaching Exordium Monument. The two works were then written by Chu Suiliang, a calligrapher in the Tang Dynasty. The monuments record the history of the spread of Buddhism of the Wild Goose Pagoda and the Silk Road. They are important cultural relics for the study of calligraphy, painting and sculpture in the Tang Dynasty.



▲ Statue of Xuanzang

**Xuanzang** (602-664) was an eminent monk in the Tang Dynasty. In 629, he set out from Chang'an and traveled along the Silk Road to India to study Buddhism. After the course of 17 years, Xuanzang brought more than 600 Buddhist scriptures back to Chang'an, translated them at Ci'en Temple, and founded the Faxiang Sect (also known as Vijñaptimātrā School), one of the eight schools of Chinese Buddhism.



## Tour Guide

### ➤ The Big Wild Goose Pagoda

The Big Wild Goose Pagoda is located in the Ci'en Temple. It has seven floors. Step by step, you can see Sakyamuni Buddha, Buddha relics, pattra-leaf scriptures and other Buddhist treasures. On the fourth floor of the pagoda are two pieces of the pattra-leaf scriptures that Xuanzang brought back from India. In ancient India, there was no paper, so it was often replaced by pattra-leaf scriptures. The more than 600 Buddhist sutras retrieved were all pattra-leaf scriptures. There are 14 characters on the petals of the lotus sunk panel on the seventh floor of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, which are combined to form a verse with different reading methods. On the wall is Xuanzang's book *The Great Tang Dynasty Record of the Western Regions*, which records the legend of monks burying swallows and building a pagoda. This is how The Big Wild Goose Pagoda got its name.

### ➤ Ci'en Temple

Ci'en Temple was built before the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. Master Xuanzang, as the first abbot, translated Buddhist sutras and preached the doctrine of Vijnaptimātrā School here, making Ci'en Temple the ancestral hall of the Faxiang Sect (also known as Vijnaptimātrā School), which plays a pivotal role in Chinese Buddhist history. In the temple, we can see Xuanzang's hand-planted sala tree, as well as the Pagoda Inscription Stele left by an ancient examinee, which symbolized getting promoted step by step.

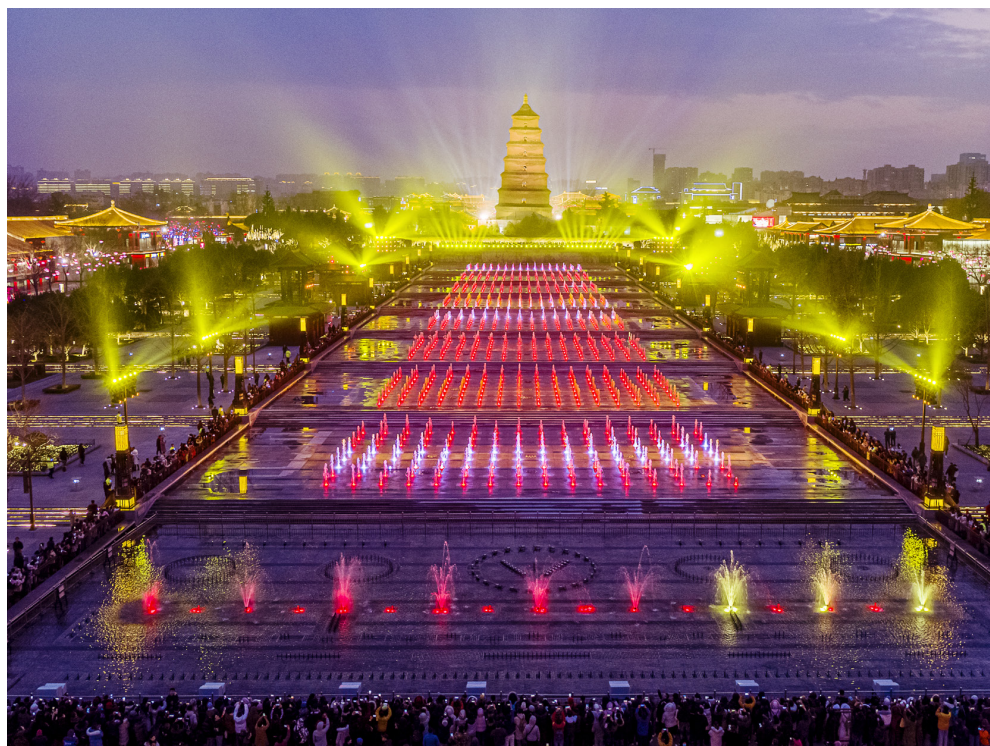
### ➤ The Big Wild Goose Pagoda -free

It is composed of Ci'en Temple Heritage Park, South Square of The Big Wild Goose Pagoda, North Square of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, East Garden of Wild Goose Pagoda and West Garden of the Wild Goose Pagoda. Ci'en Temple Heritage Park adjacent to Ci'en Temple, is a tranquil open garden with Buddhist culture as theme. The statue of Xuanzang in the South Square of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda is a popular spot for tourists to take photos. The fountain of light and music in the North Square of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda has been popular with tourists for many years. The East Garden West Garden are a Qin Opera-themed park and a Shaanxi folk custom-themed park respectively.



▲ Outdoor statue of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda





▲ The Big Wild Goose Pagoda North Square light and shadow music fountain

## Tourist Information

### The Big Wild Goose Pagoda

- 📍 In Ci'en Temple, Yanta District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-85518039
- ¥ CNY 30 to visit the pagoda (CNY 50 to visit the Ci'en Temple)
- 🕒 08:30-18:00
- 🚇 Dayan Pagoda Station of Xi'an Metro Line 3 and Line 4



Official Weibo



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### The Grand Tang Mall

It is about 200 meters from the Big Wild Goose Pagoda.

- 📍 No.46, Ci'en Road, Yanta District, Xi'an
- ¥ Open for free

### Tang Paradise

It is about 1 km from the Big Wild Goose Pagoda

- 📍 No.99, Furong West Road, Qujiang New District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-85511888
- ¥ Open for free





## Heritage Highlight

The Small Wild Goose Pagoda is the pagoda of the Jianfu Temple, the imperial monastery in Chang'an City of the Tang Dynasty. It has a history of more than 1300 years. In order to preserve the Buddhist sutras brought back by Yijing, a prominent monk of the Tang Dynasty, who traveled west on the sea road to seek genuine knowledge, the royal family of the Tang Dynasty raised funds to build a pagoda in the Jianfu Temple. Since the Big Wild Goose Pagoda was built first and it was higher, the later generations called the new pagoda "Small Wild Goose Pagoda". The Small Wild Goose Pagoda is a typical work of square brick pagoda with dense eaves in early China, which proves the history of Buddhism's spread from India to the east, and also has witnessed the popularity of Buddhism in Chang'an in the Tang Dynasty.

## Heritage Information

Heritage Name: Small Wild Goose Pagoda

Construction Time: 707-710

Purpose: To worship the Sarira

### In 684

Wu Zetian built the Jianfu Temple to bless Emperor Gaozong of the Tang Dynasty who had died 100 days ago.

### From 707 to 710

Emperor Zhongzong of the Tang Dynasty built the pagoda courtyard and the pagoda of the Jianfu Temple in Anren Square, which were used to worship the sutras and relics brought back by the great monk Yijing of the Tang Dynasty along the Silk Road.

### At the end of the Tang Dynasty

the Jianfu Temple was destroyed and abandoned due to war, and the pagoda was preserved.

### After the Ming Dynasty

"Small Wild Goose Pagoda" gradually replaced the original name "the Jianfu Temple Pagoda".

### In 1556

the top two floors of the pagoda were destroyed by an earthquake, leaving 13 floors.

### In 1961

the Small Wild Goose Pagoda became one of the first important heritage sites under state protection.

### In 2014

it was added to the World Heritage List as the site of the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor".



▲ Autumn Scenery of the Small Wild Goose Pagoda



▲ The Small Wild Goose Pagoda



## Tour Guide

### ➤ The Small Wild Goose Pagoda

The Small Wild Goose Pagoda is the representative building of the dense eaves brick pagoda in the Tang Dynasty, and the Big Wild Goose Pagoda is the landmark building left by Chang'an City in the Tang Dynasty. The pagoda is square, composed of an underground palace, a base, the main body, eaves, etc. The Small Wild Goose Pagoda was originally 15 stories and about 45 meters high. During an earthquake in the Ming Dynasty, the top two stories of the pagoda were damaged, and now there are 13. For heritage conservation, the tower is not open to visitors at present.

### ➤ The Wild Goose Pagoda and the Morning Bell



The Small Wild Goose Pagoda and the iron bell of the Jin Dynasty in the Bell Tower of the Jianfu Temple are collectively called the Wild Goose Pagoda and the Morning Bell, one of the eight famous sights of the Guanzhong area. In ancient times, the Jianfu Temple regularly rang the bell every day. The bell tone was clear and the shadow of the tower was beautiful, giving a different taste of scenery. Now visitors can experience ringing the bell for blessings.

### ➤ Jianfu Temple

The Jianfu Temple, where the Small Wild Goose Pagoda is located, was built in 684 AD. It is a famous royal temple in Chang'an City of the Tang Dynasty. The Jianfu Temple after two major repairs during the Ming and Qing Dynasties, gradually shows the appearance we see today. There are ten ancient and famous trees in the Jianfu Temple, about 800-1300 years old, among which five thousand-year-old Chinese scholar trees distribute on both sides of the central axis before the Main Shrine Hall, giving an extraordinary magnificent view.

### ➤ Xi'an Museum

The Xi'an Museum is located in the same courtyard as the Small Wild Goose Pagoda. It is a national first-grade museum, which is very suitable for new visitors to learn about the history of the construction of Xi'an for more than 1,000 years and the history of the development of the city for more than 3,000 years. The most precious treasures are the Three-colored Flying Horse, Qin Jade Stem Cup and Gilded Statue of Dong Qin and other precious cultural relics.



▲ Tri-colored Pottery of a Running Horse

### ➤ Shaanxi Folk Performance

The Wild Goose Garden near the north gate of the Small Wild Goose Pagoda has many experience projects of Shaanxi folk customs. You can watch shadow puppetry and puppet show (the ticket price is CNY 30; the performance lasts 20 minutes), and experience shadow puppetry making and rubbing. There is a Chang'an Ancient Classical Music performance in the Hall of Happiness and Longevity (the ticket price is CNY 58; the performance lasts 30 minutes).



▲ Xi'an Museum





▲ The Bell of Wild Goose Pagoda

## Tourist Information

### Xi'an Museum (Small Wild Goose Pagoda)

- 📍 No.72 (North Gate), Youyi West Road, Beilin District, Xi'an, Middle Section (West Gate) of Zhuque Street, Beilin District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87803591
- 💰 Free
- 🕒 09:00-18:00 in peak season, 09:00-17:30 in off season; closed every Tuesday (except legal national holidays) and New Year's Eve
- 🚇 Taking Metro Line 2 or Line 5 to Nanshaomen Station



Official Weibo



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### Xi'an City Wall (Yongning Gate)

It is about 1.5 km from the Small Wild Goose Pagoda.

- 📍 No.2, South Street, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87272792
- 💰 CNY 54

See page 40 of this book for more details.

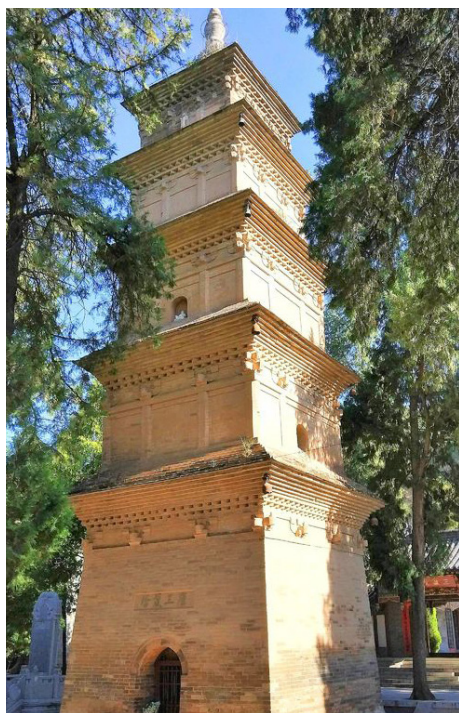
### Xi'an Beilin Museum

It is about 2km from the Small Wild Goose Pagoda.

- 📍 No.15, Sanxue Street, Beilin District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87253331
- 💰 CNY 65 in peak season, CNY 50 in off season

"Xi'an City Wall + Stele Forest" can enjoy a discounted ticket of CNY 100.





▲ Xingjiao Temple Pagoda

## Heritage Highlight

The three pagodas are located in the Xingjiao Temple in the southern suburbs of Xi'an, which are the relic stupas of Master Xuanzang, a great monk of the Tang Dynasty, and his disciple Kuiji, a disciple Yuance from Silla. The Xingjiao Temple Pagodas, the present oldest pagodas of loft style in China, show the development of Buddhism after it reached Chang'an along the Silk Road and its influence on the Korean Peninsula.

In 664, Xuanzang passed away in Yuhua Palace (now in Tongchuan, Shaanxi Province) and was buried in the White Deer Plain in the eastern suburbs of Chang'an. In 669, Empress Wu Zetian moved Xuanzang's remains to the Shao Ling Plateau, to the south of Chang'an, and built a stupa. In the following year, a temple was built for it, which was named "Huguo Xingjiao Temple". Xingjiao Temple is the first of the eight major temples in the Fan Chuan Plain in the Tang Dynasty, and it is also one of the ancestral temples of Vijnaptimātrā School.



## Xingjiao Temple Pagodas

Important Heritage Site under State Protection

### Heritage Information

Heritage Name: Xingjiao Temple Pagodas

Construction Time: AD 669

Purpose: To store Xuanzang's Relics

#### In 664

Master Xuanzang passed away and was buried in the White Deer Plain.

#### In 669

Wu Zetian moved Xuanzang's remains to Shao Ling Plateau, to the south of Chang'an, to build a stupa.

#### In 670

"Huguo Xingjiao Temple" was built, which was the first of the eight major temples in the Fan Chuan Plain.

#### In 682

the stupa for Xuanzang's disciple Kuiji was built.

#### In 1115

some of the remains of Xuanzang's disciple Yuance from Silla were moved to Xingjiao Temple to build his stupa.

#### In 1961

the Xingjiao Temple Pagodas became one of the first batch of important heritage sites under state protection.

#### In 2014

it was added to the World Heritage List as the site of the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor".



▲ Xingjiao Temple

## Tour Guide

### Three Stupas

The three pagodas of the Xingjiao Temple are located in the west courtyard of the Xingjiao Temple, which have a history of more than 1,300 years. They are surrounded by green pines, steles and stones. The Xuanzang Stupa in the center is 23 meters high and has five floors. There is a statue of Xuanzang in the arch cave at the bottom and an inscription named Inscription for Master Dabainjue Tang Sanzang is inlaid on the back of the pagoda. On both sides are the stupas of Xuanzang's disciples, Kuiji and Yuance. They are about 7 meters high, with stone inscriptions and clay statues at the bottom of the pagodas.

### The Main Courtyard of the Xingjiao Temple

On the axis of the main courtyard are the gate, the Bell Tower and Drum Tower, the Main Shrine Hall, the Dharma Hall and other buildings. The Dharma Hall enshrines the Bronze Buddha of Pilu of the Yuan Dynasty and other precious cultural relics.

### East Courtyard of the Xingjiao Temple

The main building in the east courtyard is the Depository of Buddhist Sutras, where you can see paintings and calligraphic works of Master Xuanzang, as well as thousands of precious Buddhist scriptures, including the patra-leaf scriptures in Sanskrit and Pali. Standing upstairs beside the railing, you can see the lofty Zhongnan Mountain.

## Tourist Information

### Xingjiao Temple

- 📍 Xingjiao Temple Road, Chang'an District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87803591
- ¥ CNY 10
- 🕒 08:00-17:00
- 🚌 Taking Xi'an Metro Line 2 to Weiqu South Station, then transferring to the bus

## Attractions Nearby

### The Huayan Temple

It is about 9 km from the Xingjiao Temple.

- 📍 Shao Ling Plateau, Weiqu Street, Chang'an District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-85990014
- ¥ Open for free



▲ The Great Buddha Temple Grottoes



## The Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes

National 3A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State Protection

### Heritage Information

Heritage Name: The Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes

Construction Time: in 628 AD

Purpose: To pay tribute to fallen soldiers

- **During the Northern Wei Dynasty**  
the people began to excavate Buddhist grottoes.
- **In 628**  
Emperor Taizong of Tang Li Shimin ordered the construction of a grotto for the giant Buddha.
- **In the Ming Dynasty**  
because the Buddha statue was tall and majestic, the temple got a vulgo of The Giant Buddhist Temple, and the name is now still in use.
- **In 1988**  
Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes became one of the third group of important heritage sites under state protection.
- **In 2014**  
it was added to the World Heritage List as the site of the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor".



## Heritage Highlight

Located on the main line of the Northern Silk Road, the Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes are the largest grottoes in Shaanxi Province, and also an important relic of the Chinese Buddhist grotto art in the heyday of the Tang Dynasty. In 628 AD, the Emperor Taizong of Tang Li Shimin built the temple to commemorate the fallen soldiers who were killed in the battle of Qianshuiyuan of Binzhou, which was originally called "Yingfu Temple". On the 400-meter-long cliff face, there are more than 130 grottoes of all sizes, with more than 1,980 clustered statues surrounding a 20-meter-high giant Buddha. The grottoes are also named for this highest giant Buddha in Shaanxi.

## Tour Guide

The Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes are divided into five parts: the Great Buddha Grotto, the Thousand Buddha Caves, the Arhat Caves, the Zhangba Buddha Grottoes and the Practicing Grottoes.



### ➤ The Great Buddha Grotto

It is the largest grotto in the Giant Buddhist Temple. The Buddha in it is 20 meters high and is said to be built with Li Shimin as the model, Emperor Taizong of the Tang Dynasty. There is a five-story protective building outside the grotto, and from the second floor visitors can see the front view of the giant Buddha with reverence.

### ➤ Thousand-Buddha Caves

The caves are located in the east of the Great Buddha Grotto, and there are 696 statues. The Buddhas have the characteristics of bulging chest, wasp waist, wide hip, moderate proportion of head and body, and plump and healthy body, showing a typical artistic style of statues in the Tang Dynasty.

### ➤ Arhat Caves

Located on the west of the Great Buddha Grotto, the four small grottoes are arranged in a line, with a total of more than 100 statues.

### ➤ Zhangba Buddha Grottoes

They are the earliest grottoes of the Giant Buddha Temple, located 200 meters to the west of the Great Buddha Grotto. Nine small grottoes are included, and have been dug along the mountain. The main grotto is carved with standing statues of one Buddha and two Bodhisattva figures.

### ➤ Monk Grottoes

They are located to the east of the Thousand Buddha Caves, and there are 98 caves of all sizes for monks to live and practice. The grottoes are interconnected like a maze in the air.

## Tourist Information

### Bin County Cave Temple Museum

- 📍 West of Binzhou City, Xianyang
- ☎ 029-34791605
- ¥ CNY 35 in peak season, CNY 20 in off season
- 🕒 09:00-17:00
- 🚗 Taking the high-speed rail to Binzhou East Station, then taking a taxi for about 25 minutes

## Attractions Nearby

### Huaguo Mountain Grottoes

It is about 5 km from the Giant Buddhist Temple grottoes.

- 📍 Shuilian Village, Binzhou City, Xianyang
- ¥ CNY 10

The Lantern Show of Mount Huaguo is national intangible cultural heritage and is held on the 15th day of the first lunar month every year, when the people light thousands of oil lanterns in the grottoes to pray for blessings.





## Tomb of Zhang Qian

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State Protection

▲ Tomb of Zhang Qian

Zhang Qian (164 BC-114 BC) was an outstanding Chinese diplomat and explorer during the Han Dynasty. In 139 BC, Zhang Qian was sent to the Western Regions by the Emperor Wu, starting from Chang'an, and opening up the way from the Han Dynasty to the Western Regions, namely the "Silk Road"

### Heritage Highlight

In 114 BC, Zhang Qian died in Chang'an and was buried in his hometown, Bowang Town, Chenggu County, Shaanxi Province. The tomb has been recorded in literature in the successive reigns and dynasties since the Han Dynasty. In 1938, National Northwest Associated University Archaeology Committee started the excavation of the tomb, unearthed clay impression of seal with "bo wang zao ming" (Zhang Qian got the title of Marquis Bowang from Emperor Wu), together with cultural relics such as the tombstone in front of the tomb, stone carvings of the Han Dynasty, which has proved the tomb to be the Tomb of Zhang Qian in archaeology.

### Heritage Information

Heritage Name: Tomb of Zhang Qian  
Construction Time: 114 BC  
Purpose: Tomb

#### In 114 BC

Zhang Qian died of illness in Chang'an and was buried in his hometown.

#### In 1938

National Northwest Associated University conducted the preliminary excavation and identified as Zhang Qian's tomb.

#### In 2006

Tomb of Zhang Qian became one of the sixth batch of important heritage sites under state protection.

#### In 2014

it was added to the World Heritage List as the site of the "Silk Road: Road Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor".



## Tour Guide

The Zhang Qian Tomb Scenic Spot is a garden-style cultural scenic spot built based on the Tomb of Zhang Qian. It is divided into six theme tourist areas: Zhang Qian's Hometown Exhibition Hall, Zhang Qian Cultural Forest, Zhang Qian's Life Story Exhibition Hall, Tomb of Zhang Qian, Zhang Qian's Silhouette Exhibition, and Exhibition Hall of Oil Paintings of Zhang Qian's Deeds.

### ➤ Tomb of Zhang Qian

Tomb of Zhang Qian is a typical funnel-shaped Han tomb, surrounded by towering cypresses. There are four stone tablets in front of the tomb, and on both sides are two stone animals of the Han Dynasty, which experts have assumed to be stone tigers of the Han Dynasty.

### ➤ Zhang Qian's Hometown Exhibition Hall (Chenggu County Museum)

"Chenggu Unearthed Bronze Wares Exhibition" is worth a look, the most precious treasure is the Square Bronze Wine Vessel with Double Animal Head Applique Holding Rings.

### ➤ Zhang Qian's Life Story Exhibition Hall

Here you can learn about the great life of Zhang Qian and his journey to the Western Regions and opening up the Silk Road.

### ➤ Zhang Qian's Silhouette Exhibition

Walking in the corridor, visitors can appreciate the 33 large series of paper cuttings of "Zhang Qian's Travel to the Western Regions" by some artists.

### ➤ Exhibition Hall of Oil Paintings of Zhang Qian's Deeds

In the hall, you can enjoy a group of oil paintings of "The Travels of Zhang Qian to the West", which reproduce Zhang Qian's life.

### ➤ Zhang Qian Cultural Forest

The vegetation is lush, the trees are green, the air is fresh, and the forest is decorated with many "cartoon characters of Zhang Qian".

## Tourist Information



### Zhang Qian Tomb Scenic Spot

- 📍 Raojiaying Village, Bowang Town, Chenggu County, Hanzhong
- ☎ 0916-7208118
- ¥ CNY 60 in peak season, CNY 40 in off season
- 🕒 9:00-17:00
- 🚗 Xi'an-Beijing-Kunming Expressway-Chenggu Flyover-National Highway 316-Tomb of Zhang Qian



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### Wumen Weir (World Heritage Irrigation Structures)

It is 15 km from the Tomb of Zhang Qian

- 📍 Xujiamiao Town, Chenggu County, Hanzhong
- ¥ Free

### Chenggu Orange Orchard

It is 17 km from the Tomb of Zhang Qian

- 📍 Liujiaying Village, Juyuan Town, Chenggu County, Hanzhong
- ¥ Free



▲ Zhenbei Beacon Tower





## The Great Wall (Shaanxi section)



### Heritage Information

**Heritage Name:** Part of the Great Wall in Shaanxi

**Construction Time:** From the Warring States Period to the Ming Dynasty

**Purpose:** Military defense

#### During the Warring States Period (7th century BC)

the states of China fought for hegemony and initially built the Great Wall to defend each other.

#### During the Qin Dynasty (about 215-207 BC)

after the State of Qin unified the whole land of another six states, Qin Shi Huang built the Great Wall on a large scale to prevent the invasion of nomadic tribes from the north.

#### During the Han Dynasty (c. 121 BC-101 BC)

Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty restored the Great Wall of Qin and built the Great Wall of the Han Dynasty, also known as the "Outer Great Wall", which was built over 10,000 km long to resist Xiongnu soldiers.

#### In the Sui Dynasty (581-608)

Emperors Wen and Yang built the Great Wall seven times in response to the invasion of the nomadic Turks from the north.

#### During the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)

the Great Wall was built 20 times on a large scale and many important towns were built.

#### In 1987

the Great Wall of China was added to the World Heritage List.

The Great Wall was a massive military project built in ancient China to resist the invasion of the Central Plains by northern nomads. It is also an ancient defense project with the longest construction time and the largest amount of engineering in the world. Since the Warring States Period began, the building of the Great Wall has continued for more than 2000 years, with a total length of more than 20,000 km, stretching across 15 provinces and cities in China.

Shaanxi is one of the provinces with the most abundant resources of the Great Wall in China. The length of the Great Wall in Shaanxi is 1838 km, which is distributed in Yulin, Yan'an, Tongchuan, Weinan and Hancheng. As for this section, the Great Wall of the Ming Dynasty is 1218 km; the early Great Wall is 476 km; and the Great Wall of the State of Wei is 144 km. Northern Shaanxi is the most concentrated area of the Great Wall sites. Here tourists can visit the "first tower of the Great Wall" Zhenbei Beacon Tower, Boluo Ancient Fort, Yulin Defense City and other relic landscape, tasting the flavour of the frontier.

### Tourist Information

#### Zhenbei Beacon Tower

📍 Xi'an-Baotou Express, Yuyang District, Yulin

☎ 0912-3821359

🕒 7:30-19:30

💰 CNY 30

"The first tower of the Great Wall", one of the largest buildings in the Ming Great Wall sites

### Attractions Nearby

#### Boluo Ancient Fort

It is one of the 36 forts along the Ming Great Wall.

📍 Huangyun Hill, Hengshan District, Yulin

☎ 13772393029

💰 Free



▼ Xi'an City Wall (Yongning Gate)



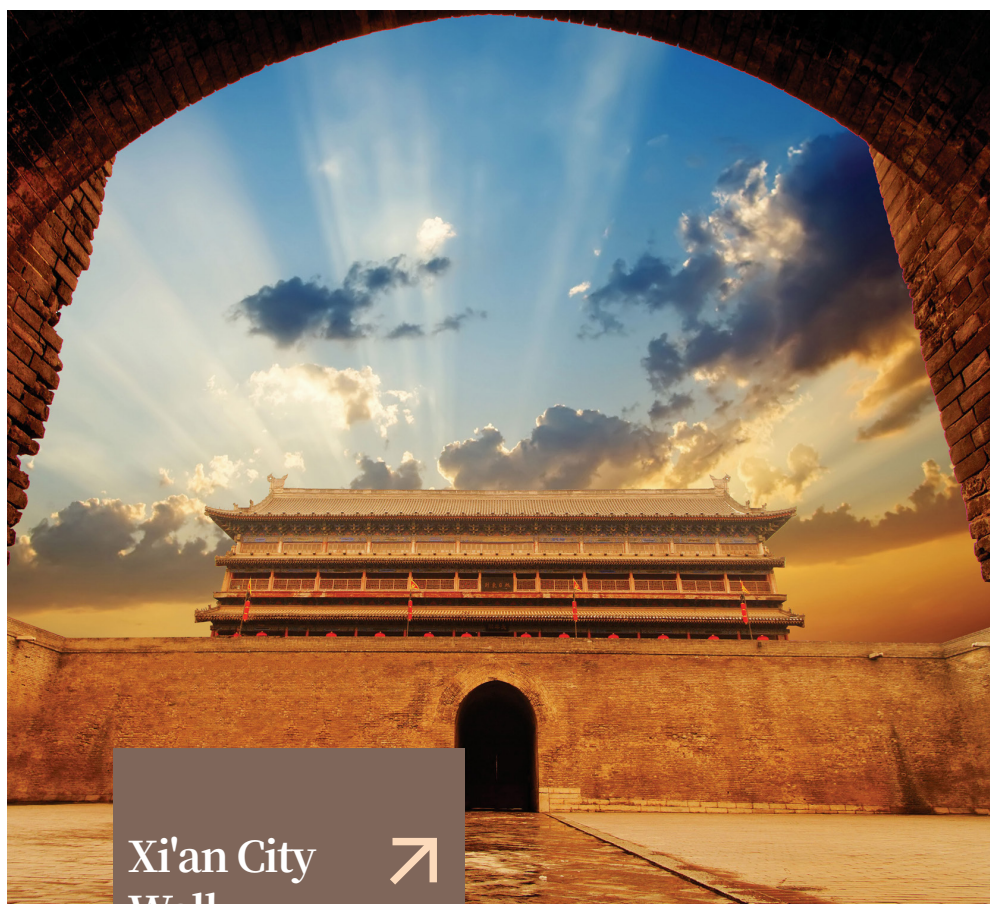
## Chapter 2 CHAPTER TWO

# Tentative List of WHSs in Shaanxi

---

The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage stipulates that inclusion in UNESCO's Preparatory List of World Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites is a prerequisite for World Heritage application. At present, the following projects in Shaanxi Province are included in the list:

- Xi'an City Wall
- Mausoleums of Emperors of the Western Han Dynasty
- Mausoleums of Emperors of the Tang Dynasty
- Huashan Mountain Range(one of the Five Mountains in China)
- Dangjia Village Ancient Architectural Complex
- Ruins of Tongwan City, Jingbian County
- Shimao Site, Shenmu County



## Xi'an City Wall



(City Wall of the Ming and Qing Dynasties)

National 5A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State  
Protection

▲ Xi'an City Wall · East Gate

Xi'an City Wall is a landmark of the ancient capital Xi'an. With a history of more than 600 years, it is the largest and best preserved ancient city wall in China. With a circumference of 13.74 km, the city wall has 18 gates, including a series of ancient military facilities such as the moat, suspension bridge, gate tower, arrow tower, gate tower and turret. In 1961, Xi'an City Wall was announced by the State Council as one of the first batch of important heritage sites under state protection. In 2006, Xi'an City Wall was added to the tentative list of world heritage sites. In 2018, Xi'an City Wall and Forest of Stele Historical and Cultural Scenic Spot was officially awarded the honor of "National 5A-rated Tourist Attraction".

Riding on the ancient city walls is a unique experience in Xi'an. In addition to cycling, visitors can also walk around the city walls and watch antique performances to experience the integration of history and modern civilization in the thousand-year-old capital.





## Tour Guide

### ● Walking into the gates

#### ➤ **Yongning Gate** (South Gate) is the gate for guests of Xi'an City Wall.-----

Built in the Sui Dynasty (AD 582), Yongning Gate is the longest used gate of Xi'an City Wall. It is also the gate for guests of Xi'an City Wall, where tourists usually start their tour of the city wall. There are daily activities such as the ancient city entering ceremony and a parade of warriors with golden armor.

#### ➤ **18 Gates** -----

There are 18 gates in Xi'an City Wall. In addition to the most popular tourist site, Yongning Gate (South Gate) and Anyuan Gate (North Gate), known as the "first gate of the ancient city", under the Wenchang Gate is the Xi'an Beilin Museum. The Peace Gate can overlook the Dayan Pagoda, and the Yongxing Residence Food Street is under the Zhongshan Gate.

### ● Returning to the Tang Dynasty

#### ➤ **The visit of Xi'an** Tang Hanguang Gate Museum requires the ticket of Xi'an City Wall.---

It is one of the entrances of the City Wall. There are two special exhibitions titled "History of Chinese City Wall" and "Chang'an City in Sui and Tang Dynasties". You can also see the rammed earth ruins of Chang'an City in the Tang Dynasty.

#### ➤ **Dream of Chang'an-Grand Ceremony for Guests in the Tang Dynasty**

The "ambassador-class" welcoming performance "Chang'an Impression-Tang Dynasty Grand Welcoming Ceremony", which has received dignitaries from various countries, is staged in Nanmen Square and the barbican entrance from April to October every year (ticket price is CNY 260, including the ticket of Xi'an City Wall).



▲ "Dream of Chang'an - Grand Ceremony for Guests in Tang Dynasty"





▲ Riding around the City

## ● Views Nearby

### ➤ Riding around the City -----



There are bicycle rental points at the four main gates of the city in the four directions(CNY 45 for one and CNY 90 for two within 3 hours, and you can return the bicycle at any rental point).

### ➤ Huancheng Park and Shuncheng Alley(Inner Circumferential District of Xi'an City Wall) Open for free -----

Huancheng Park, outside the city wall, is a perfect place for citizens to exercise, play chess and listen to music. Shuncheng Alley inside the wall has a collection of restaurants, coffee shops, teahouses with cross talk, bars and hotels.Walking in the alley, you can see the majestic wall on one side, and the millennium old city' s bustles and hustles on the other side.

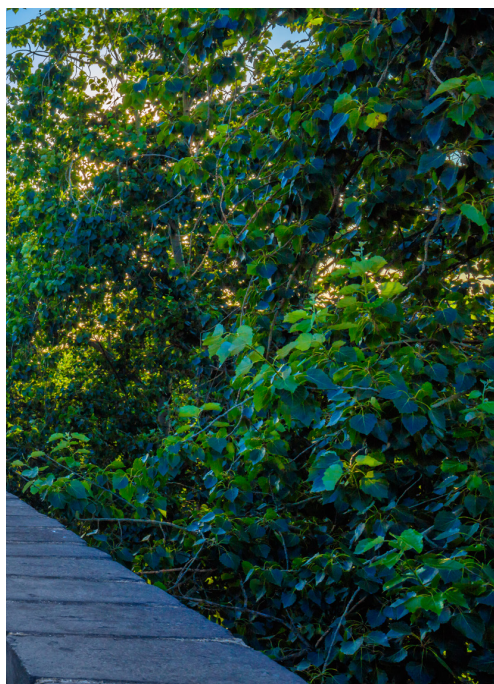
### ➤ Xi'an City Wall New Year Lantern Show -----

The lantern show has been held for more than 30 years. Every Spring Festival, the ancient city walls are lit up with colorful lanterns, allowing visitors to get a full taste of the festival atmosphere of the ancient city.



### ➤ Xi'an City Wall International Marathon -----

Sports fans can take part in the marathon with the only track on the ancient city wall. The event has been held more than 20 times.



## Tourist Information

### Xi'an City Wall

- 📍 No.2, South Street, Xi'an (Yongning Gate)
- ☎ 029-87272792
- ¥ CNY 54
- 🕒 Yongning Gate (South Gate) 08:00-23:00

The Xi'an City Wall has a number of points for going up, which can be accessed at different gates within one day with the ticket.



Official Weibo



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### Bell Tower and Drum Tower

It is 1 km from the Yongning Gate of Xi'an City Wall.

- 📍 Center of Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87278797
- ¥ CNY 30 for the Bell Tower, CNY 30 for the Drum Tower, CNY 50 for both

### Shuyuan Gate Pedestrian Street

It is 200 meters from the Yongning Gate of Xi'an City Wall.

- 📍 South Street, Beilin District, Xi'an
- ¥ Free

### Yongxingfang

It is 100 meters from the Zhongshan Gate of Xi'an City Wall.

- 📍 Into the Jianguo Gate, Dongxin Street, Xincheng District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87457788
- ¥ Free

### Xi'an Beilin Museum

It is 50 meters from the Wenchang Gate of Xi'an City Wall.

- 📍 No.15, Sanxue Street, Beilin District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87253331
- ¥ CNY 65 in peak season, CNY 50 in off season, CNY 100 for "Xi'an City Wall + Xi'an Beilin Museum"

### Jianguo Gate Old Market Cultural and Creative Block

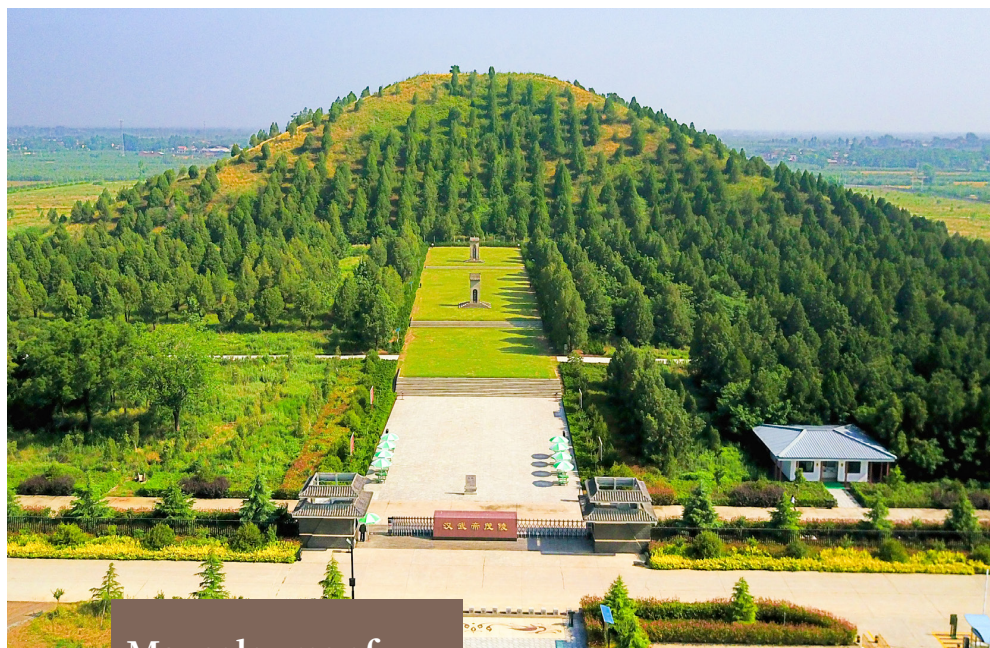
It is 50 meters from the Jianguo Gate of Xi'an City Wall.

- 📍 Into the Jianguo Gate, Beilin District, Xi'an
- ¥ Free

### Guangren Temple

It is 2 km from Anding Gate and Anyuan Gate of Xi'an City Wall.

- 📍 No.152, Xibei First Road, Lianhu District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87341676
- ¥ Free



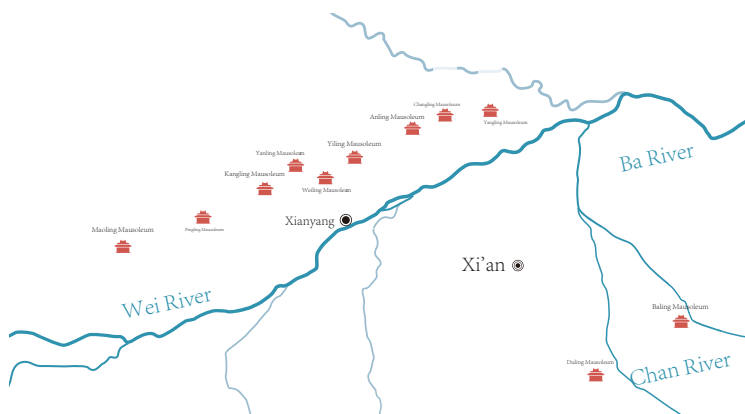
# Mausoleums of Emperors of the Western Han Dynasty

(11 Mausoleums)

Important Heritage Sites under  
State Protection

▲ Maoling Mausoleum

The mausoleums refer to the 11 emperors of the Western Han Dynasty. These mausoleums are grand in scale, rigorous in architectural layout and rich in funerary goods. They are the highest form of the funerary system in the feudal era. They link up the rise and decline of the Western Han Dynasty and have great historical, cultural and scientific value for the study of the society in the Western Han Dynasty. In 2019, the mausoleums of emperors of the Western Han Dynasty was placed on the tentative list of world heritage sites.



▲ Map of the Western Han Dynasty Imperial Tombs





## Tour Guide

### Yang Mausoleum Highlights: Noble Ladies Figurines, Figurines of Warriors, Figurines of Animals

The mausoleum of Liu Qi, Emperor Jingdi of the Han Dynasty, is the most complete mausoleum of the Han Dynasty found so far. About 100,000 relics, including figurines of noble ladies, warriors and animals, have been unearthed from more than 200 burial pits in the cemetery. The Han Yang Mausoleum Site Museum was built based on the Yang Mausoleum. It has four permanent exhibitions: the archaeological exhibition hall, the protection exhibition hall of the outer pit of the emperor's mausoleum, the exhibition hall of the Nanquemen ruins, and the Site of the ancestral temple. In the protection exhibition hall of the outer pit of the emperor's mausoleum, visitors can stand on the glass to "float" around the ruins and cultural relics under their feet.

▲ Suji style sitting and greeting figurines



#### Han Yang Mausoleum Site Museum

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction  
National First-grade Museum

📍 East Section of Special Highway of Xi'an Xianyang International Airport

☎ 029-62657530

¥ CNY 70 in peak season, CNY 55 in off season

🕒 8:30-18:30

#### ☀ Tips:

The Yang Mausoleum is a 30-minute drive from Xi'an Xianyang International Airport. Travellers travelling by air are advised to make it the first or last stop on the journey.



▲ Interior view of the Yangling Museum





## ➤ Mao Mausoleum Highlights stone carvings, Gilt Bronze Horse

The mausoleum of Liu Che, Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty, is the largest in scale, the longest in construction time and the most numerous in burial objects in the Western Han Dynasty. It is known as the "Oriental Pyramid". The Maoling Mausoleum is located in the Huo Qubing Cemetery, the subordinate tomb of the Mao Mausoleum, where you can see stone carvings, Gilt Bronze Horse, Gilt Gold and Gilt Silver Bamboo Stove and other precious cultural relics of the Han Dynasty. You can also enjoy the bronze chime performance for free.

▲ Maoling Stone Carving



### Maoling Mausoleum

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction  
National Second-grade Museum

- 📍 Daochang Village, Nanwei Town, Xingping, Xianyang
- ☎ 029-38456140
- 💰 CNY 75 in peak season, CNY 55 in off season
- 🕒 08:00-18:00

#### ☀ Tips:

The Maoling Mausoleum is 1 km from the Mao Mausoleum, without another ticket required.



▲ Maoling Museum



▲ Duling Mausoleum

## ➤ Du Mausoleum

Highlights suburban forest, tiles of the Qin and Han Dynasties

The mausoleum of Liu Xun, Emperor Xuan of the Han Dynasty, is the closest to the city of Xi'an. Now around the Du Mausoleum enclosure, Duyi Heritage Park and Shanglin Imperial Park. Duyi Heritage Park is a city park, where visitors can learn about the culture of the Han Dynasty and the life of Emperor Xuan in the exhibition area of the history and culture of the Du Mausoleum. On the site of what was once a royal garden, visitors can in Shanglin Imperial Park get a close look at the grave mound of the Du Mausoleum. In the scenic area of the Du Mausoleum, some of the unearthed relics are exhibited in the Xi'an Qin Brick and Han Tile Museum, where visitors can experience the activities of eaves tiles rubbing-making.

### Duyi Heritage Park

- 📍 Intersection of Taqing Road and Denggao Road, Qujiang New District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-89318666
- 💰 Free

### Shanglin Imperial Park

- National 3A-rated tourist attraction
- 📍 No.1, Yanxiang Road, Qujiang New District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-85591300
- 💰 CNY 35



## ➤ Chang Mausoleum

Highlights Three Thousand Painted Terracotta Warriors and Horses of the Western Han Dynasty

The mausoleum of Liu Bang, Emperor Gaozu of the Han Dynasty, is the first imperial mausoleum built in the Western Han Dynasty. There are two tombs in the east and west of the Chang Mausoleum: the tomb of Gao Zu in the west and the tomb of Lv Hou in the east, and the east of the cemetery is the tombs of meritorious officials buried with Liu Bang. Three thousand painted Terracotta Warriors and Horses from the Western Han Dynasty unearthed from the Chang Mausoleum are the earliest large-scale terracotta warriors and horses found in China. They are now in the Xiyang Museum (free). The Imperial Seal of the Empress, a national treasure in the Shaanxi History Museum, was also unearthed near the Chang Mausoleum, and experts speculated that it belonged to Empress Lv.

### Chang Mausoleum

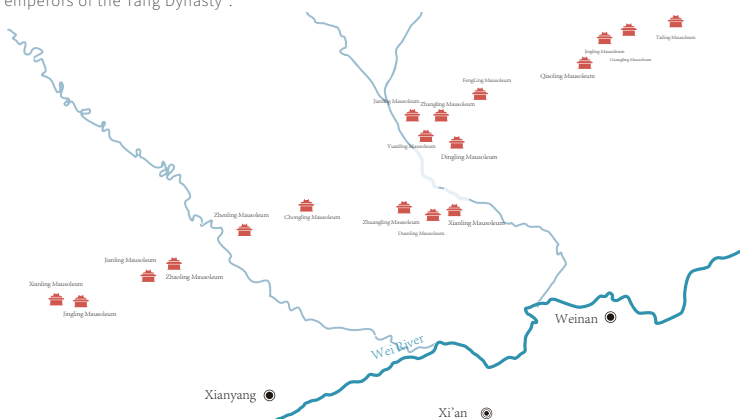
- 📍 Sanyi Village, Yaodian Town, Weicheng District, Xianyang
- 💰 Free



# Mausoleums of Emperors of the Tang Dynasty

The mausoleums of emperors of the Tang Dynasty are the 18 mausoleums of the 19 monarchs of the Tang Dynasty (Empress Wu Zetian and Emperor Gaozong Li Zhi were buried together in the Qian Mausoleum), located in Fuping County, Pu Cheng County, Sanyuan County, Jingyang County, Liquan County or Qian County in Shaanxi Province, stretching more than 100 km from east to west, in a fan shape around Chang'an (Xi'an). In 2019, the mausoleums of emperors of the Tang Dynasty were placed on the tentative list of world heritage sites.

Subordinate tomb and stone carvings are the two main attractions of the mausoleums of emperors of the Tang Dynasty. In the heyday of the Tang Dynasty, a large number of tombs were with the Xian Mausoleum, Zhao Mausoleum and Qian Mausoleum, and a large number of precious Tang cultural relics were unearthed from the mausoleums. The stone carvings of the mausoleums of emperors of the Tang Dynasty are an important treasure house of ancient Chinese sculpture art. The Qiao Mausoleum and the Qian Mausoleum are called "the best stone carving of the mausoleums of emperors of the Tang Dynasty".







## Tour Guide

### Qian Mausoleum

Highlights: Stele Without Inscription, Qianling Stone Carving

The burial place of both Li Zhi and Wu Zetian, Emperor Gaozong of the Tang Dynasty, is also one of the few mausoleums in ancient China that has not been robbed. The cemetery area of the Qian Mausoleum buried the Stele Without Inscription, stone carvings on the passage before the tomb, 61 statues of officials, etc. The Qianling Museum is built on the site of Princess Yongtai's tomb. Most of the relics on display are from the subordinate tombs of the Mausoleum, and the main ones are Tang tri-colored glazed pottery, painted pottery figurines and murals (the murals are replicas; the real ones are in the Shaanxi History Museum).

### Qianling Museum

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction  
National Second-grade Museum

📍 National Highway 312, Qian County, Xianyang City

☎ 029-35510222

¥ CNY 102 in peak season, CNY 82 in off season (including the tickets of the Qian Mausoleum, Qianling Museum and subordinate tombs)

🕒 8:30-18:30

### ☀ Tips:

The 5 scenic spots of Qian Mausoleum's are distributed dispersively and far from each other. It is recommended to take a sightseeing bus (CNY 30 for a round-trip).



▲ The Mural of "Maids" in Qianling



▲ Zhao Mausoleum

## Zhao Mausoleum

Highlights: Zhao Mausoleum Stele Forest,  
Tang Tri-colored Pottery

It is the mausoleum of Li Shimin, Emperor Taizong of the Tang Dynasty, and the construction period was about 100 years, with more than 180 tombs. It is the largest emperor's mausoleum with the most subordinate tombs. The famous "Six Steeds of Zhao Mausoleum" was unearthed here (the original is in Xi'an Beilin Museum). The Zhao Mausoleum is located in front of the tomb of Li Ji, the accompanying tomb. The representative collection is the Zhao Mausoleum Stele Forest. The articles and calligraphy are all from the famous masters and ministers at that time, and have very high historical value. The museum's painted glazed pottery, Tang tri-colored glazed pottery and murals of the Tang Dynasty are also worth a look.

### Zhao Mausoleum

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction  
National Second-grade Museum

📍 Yanxia Town, Liquan County, Xianyang City

☎ 029-35767009

¥ CNY 40 in peak season, CNY 25 in off season (The mountain of the Zhao Mausoleum is 15 km from the museum, with a ticket required: CNY 30 in peak season, CNY 20 in off season)

🕒 07:00-19:00

## ➤ Qiao Mausoleum

Highlights: Stone Carvings of Qiao Mausoleum

The mausoleum of Li Dan, Emperor Ruizong of the Tang Dynasty, was built in the heyday of the Tang Dynasty, the Kaiyuan Flourishing Age. The tall and magnificent mausoleum and exquisite stone carvings are the proof of the prosperity of the Tang Dynasty. On both sides of the passage before the tomb, dozens of huge stone carvings are lined up in rows. After more than 1,300 years of wind erosion and rain, their shapes are still clear and magnificent. Therefore, the Qiao Mausoleum is also known as the "open-air exhibition hall of stone carvings of the prosperous Tang Dynasty".

## Qiao Mausoleum

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction

📍 Qiaoling Town, Pucheng County, Weinan

☎ 0913-7414034

¥ CNY 35

🕒 08:00-18:00



▲ Qiaoling Stone Lion







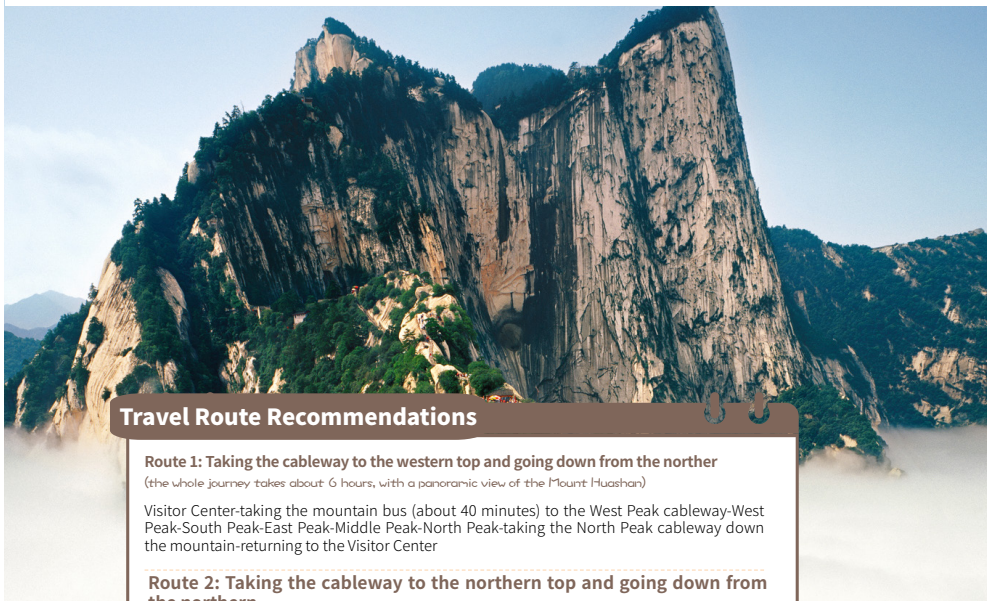
# Huashan Mountain Range

(One of the Five Mountains in China)

National 5A-rated Tourist Attraction



The Huashan Mountain is one of the five famous mountains in China, and also a famous mountain of Taoism in China, with its highest altitude of 2154.9 meters. The orogenic movement for over hundreds of millions of years has created a variety of strange peaks and valleys of different appearances, and it is known as "the steepest mountain in the world". Jin Yong's "Competition on Huashan Mountain" endowed Huashan Mountain with an air of the flashes and shadows of swords. In 2001, the Huashan Mountain range was included in the tentative list of world heritage sites. In 2008, Huashan Mountain in the west, along with Hengshan Mountain(in Hunan) in the south, Songshan Mountain in the middle and Hengshan Mountain(in Shanxi) in the north, was put on the tentative list of world heritage sites as part of the "Taishan Mountain Expansion Project: The Five Mountains of China".



## Travel Route Recommendations

### Route 1: Taking the cableway to the western top and going down from the norther

(the whole journey takes about 6 hours, with a panoramic view of the Mount Huashan)

Visitor Center-taking the mountain bus (about 40 minutes) to the West Peak cableway-West Peak-South Peak-East Peak-Middle Peak-North Peak-taking the North Peak cableway down the mountain-returning to the Visitor Center

### Route 2: Taking the cableway to the northern top and going down from the northern

(the whole journey takes 7-8 hours, with less cost, but visitors will miss the West Peak.)

Visitor Center-Taking the mountain bus (about 20 minutes) to the North Peak cableway-North Peak-Middle peak-East Peak-South Peak-West Peak-Middle peak-North Peak-Taking the North Peak cableway down the mountain-returning to the Visitor Center

### Route 3: Hiking

(8-10 hours. Night climbing usually starts at night and visitors arrive at the East Peak in the morning to watch the sunrise.)

Cloister of the Jade Spring-Wuli Pass-Shaluo Level Ground-Maonv Cave-Qingke Level Ground-Huixin Stone-Thousand-feet Fracture-Hundred-feet Gorge-Laojunli Gully-like Passage-North Peak-Caer Cliff-Canglong Ridge-Wuyun Peak-Jinsuo Passage-Middle Peak-East Peak-South Peak-West Peak



## Tour Guide

### 📌 The Top of the Huashan Mountain

The Huashan Mountain has five main peaks respectively in the east, south, west, north and middle, namely Chaoyang, Luoyan, Lianhua, Yuntai and Yunv. The peak of the south, Luoyan Peak, with an altitude of 2154.9 meters, is the highest peak of the Huashan Mountain. The top of the peak of the east is the most popular sunrise viewing spot.

### 📌 There Was Always Only One Road in the Huashan Mountain

Along the most classic hiking trail, visitors can enjoy the famous scenic spots on the mountain. It was not until the 1990s, when Huangfuyu was cut through, that the Huashan Mountain had a second hiking trail.

### 📌 Risky Road of the Huashan Mountain

The danger of the Huashan Mountain is world-famous. Two of the most thrilling and exciting attractions are the Hawk's Turning and the Changkong Skywalk. You can climb and crawl on the narrow wooden boards and stone nests on the precipice, and may get feared by the deep chasm under your feet.

### 📌 Sightseeing Cableway

There are two cableways in the Huashan Mountain. The North Peak cableway takes 5-8 minutes to reach the North Peak of the Huashan Mountain. The West Peak cableway takes 20-25 minutes to the West Peak. From the visitor center, visitors can take the scenic mountain bus to the two cableway stations.

### 📌 Taoist Holy Place

The Huashan Mountain is the holy place of the Quanzhen Sect, the mainstream of Taoism, with a total of 72 semi-hanging caves, and more than 20 Taoist temples. Among them, the Cloister of the Jade Spring, Dulong Temple, Dongdao Temple, and Zhen Yue Palace are listed as the national key Taoist temples.

## Tourist Information

### Huashan Mountain

- 📍 South Section of Yuquan Road, Huayin City, Weinan City
- ☎ 4000913777
- ¥ CNY 160 in peak season, CNY 100 in off season (one-way ticket of West Peak cableway: CNY 140; one-way ticket of North Peak cableway: CNY 80)
- 🕒 All day for climbing(cableway 07:00-19:00 in peak season, 08:00-18:00 in off season)



Official Weibo



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### Xiyue Temple

It is 4.5km from the Huashan Mountain.  
It is 1.5 km from Huashan Station.

- 📍 Yuemiao Street, Huayin City, Weinan City
- ☎ 0913-4612521
- ¥ CNY 15 (free with the ticket of the Huashan Mountain)

In the Longevity Palace, you can see the panorama of the Huashan Mountain.

### Shaohua Mountain National Forest Park

It is 29 km from the Huashan Mountain.

- 📍 Lianhuasi Town, Huazhou District, Weinan
- ☎ 0913-4810160
- ¥ CNY 60



▲ Dangjia Village

## Dangjia Village Ancient Architectural Complex

(Shan-shan Ancient Residential  
Houses)

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State  
Protection

Located 9 km northeast of Hancheng City in Shaanxi Province on the bank of the Yellow River, Dangjia Village has a history of nearly 700 years. There are 123 courtyard houses, 11 ancestral halls, 25 guard buildings, Wenxing Pavilion, Watchtower, Biyang Fort and other ancient buildings in the village, which are honored as "living fossils of the villages inhabited by the ancient traditional civilization of Oriental people" and "treasures of the world's residential houses". As a typical and outstanding representative complex of Shanshan ancient residential houses, Dangjia Village ancient architectural complex was included in the tentative list of world heritage sites in 2008.





## Tour Guide



The watchtower

### Watchtower

Built in 1918, it is 14.5 meters high and can overlook all around the village. It is a defensive watchtower.

### Wenxing Pavilion

Initially Built in 1725, it is about 28 meters high and has six hexagonal floors. Confucius and Wenquxing are enshrined in the pavilion.

### Dang' s Ancestral Shrine

Built in 1699, it is a place to worship ancestors. Emperor Guangxu of the Qing Dynasty granted the "Qin Dian Han Lin" plaque.

### Filial Piety Monument Tower

The representative work of Dangjia Village brick carvings was built in ancient times to commend women.

### Seal-like Courtyard

There are more than 100 courtyard houses in the village, most of which are rectangular, while some are square. This kind of square courtyard houses are commonly known as "yi ke yin" ("a seal", in English).

### Old Courtyard

Dangjia Village has a courtyard house with the largest area, the longest history in the village, also known as "Double Flagpole Courtyard".

### Biyang Fort

Dangjia Village consists of a village and a mountain stronghold. Biyang Fort, with a history of more than 160 years, is a representative building of the walled village.

## Tourist Information

### The Dang' s village

📍 Dangjia Village, Xizhuang Town, Hancheng

☎ 0913-5325950

¥ CNY 50

🕒 08:00-18:00



Official Weibo



Official Wechat

## Attractions Nearby

### Liangdai Village Ruiguo Ruins Museum

It is 4 km from Dangjia Village.

📍 Xizhuang Town, Hancheng

☎ 0913-5358510

¥ CNY 50

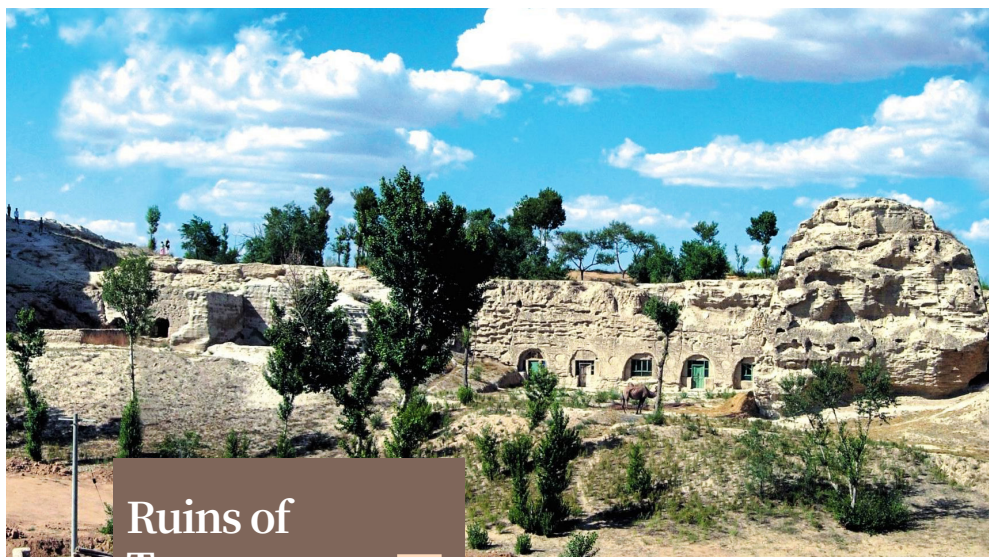
### Hancheng Ancient City

It is 12 km from Dangjia Village.

📍 45 Xue Lane, Jincheng District, Hancheng City

☎ 0913-4810160

¥ CNY 60



## Ruins of Tongwan City, Jingbian County

National 3A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State  
Protection

Located 58 km north of Jingbian County, Yulin City, Shaanxi Province, Tongwan City is the capital site of the "Da Xia" regime established by Ho-lienBobo, the chief of Xiongnu, with a history of more than 1,600 years. Tongwan City is composed of three parts: imperial city, inner city and outer city. The outline of the wall and the buildings are well preserved. Because of the white wall, the local people call it "White City". In 2012, Tongwan City site was listed as a tentative world heritage site.

### Tour Guide

#### White Castle

When building Tongwan City, the craftsmen used the method of "building the city with steamed clay". The so-called steamed clay is clay mixed with quicklime and quartz sand, made tabia finally. The wall made of tabia is white in appearance and exceptionally strong. That's why Tongwan City has remained intact for more than 1,600 years in the desert.

#### Capital Outline

Tongwan City is composed of three parts: imperial city, inner city and outer city. The ruins are all the remains of rammed earth buildings. The inner city is divided into the east city and west city, separated by a wall in the middle, and the outer city plane is rectangular. Some of the city walls, gates, horse faces and turrets can be clearly identified, and the basic pattern of the city is still preserved.

#### Defense System

Tongwan City represented the highest level of urban defense at the time. The first line of defense is the river; the second is the outer city; and the third is the rammed earth wall, rectangular pier, battlements, moats, etc., which jointly build the defense system of Tongwan City.



▲ The Tongwan City site

## Tourist Information

### Tongwan City Ruins

- 📍 Hongdunjie Town, Jingbian County, Yulin
- ☎ 0912-4611155
- 🆓 Open for free

## Attractions Nearby

### Sacred Tree Ravine Dryland Willows

It is 12km from Tongwan City.

- 📍 Hongdunjie Town, Jingbian County, Yulin City
- 🆓 Open for free

### Wave Valley

It is 74 km from Tongmancheng.

- 📍 Longzhou Town, Jingbian County, Yulin
- ☎ 0912-4830101
- 💰 CNY 100

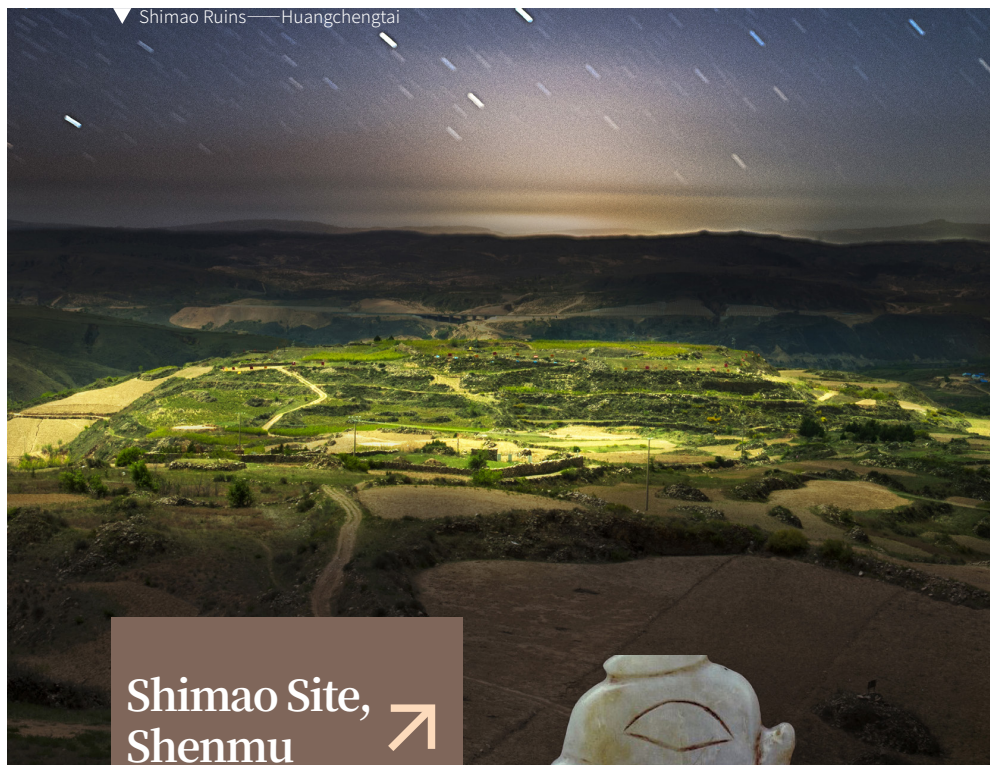


▲ The White Wall of Tongwan City





▼ Shimao Ruins — Huangchengtai



## Shimao Site, Shenmu County

National 4A-rated Tourist Attraction



▲ Jade Figure Head

The site is located in the northern part of the Loess Plateau, at the southern edge of the Mu Us Desert, and is characterized by a magnificent stone wall, consisting of a triple wall of the imperial platform, the inner city and the outer city, covering an area of more than 4 million square meters, where city defense facilities, palace buildings, large tombs and other relics were found and a large number of jade, bone artifacts, murals and other cultural relics were unearthed. It is the best preserved, largest and most valuable capital city-level site in East Asia about 4,000 years ago, representing the development height of the early national civilization in northern China. It is one of the most important archaeological discoveries in China in the 21st century, and was listed as a tentative world heritage site in 2019.

Some archaeological experts speculate that this is Kunlun City, the capital of the Yellow Emperor.



## Tour Guide

### ➤ The Size of the Site

The Shimao site is composed of the imperial platform, the inner city and the outer city, with the outer city covering an area of about 4.25 million square meters.

### ➤ Imperial Platform

The Imperial Platform, the core area of the Shimao Site, Shenmu County, has the identified largest and most complex gateway structure of the late Longshan culture in China, dating from about 2300 to 2200 BC.

### ➤ Unearthed Cultural Relics

A large number of pottery, jade and stone implements were unearthed from the Shimao site. Among them is the Jade Figure Head, which is the only jade object with human-like carving found in Neolithic sites in China and is a national first-grade cultural relic, now in the Shaanxi History Museum. In the museum you can see the stone pillars with divine faces, jew' s harp, pottery eagles and other artifacts excavated from the site at the Shaanxi Archeological Museum.

## Tourist Information

### Shimao site

📍 Shimao Village, Gaojiabu Town, Shenmu City

☎ 0912-8615239

¥ Open for free

## Attractions Nearby

### Gaojiabu Ancient City

It is 5 km from the Stone Mound site.

📍 Gaojiabu Town, Shenmu City, Yulin City

☎ 0912-8613328

¥ Open for free

### Damei Stone Kiln Scenic Area

It is 45 km from the Shimao site.

📍 Wangjiashan Village, Shanggaojiazhai Village, Jiaxian County, Yulin City

☎ 13891245056

Live in the cave dwelling and you can experience native folk food in northern Shaanxi.



▲ Stone Sculpture of God's Face Column



▲ Huashan

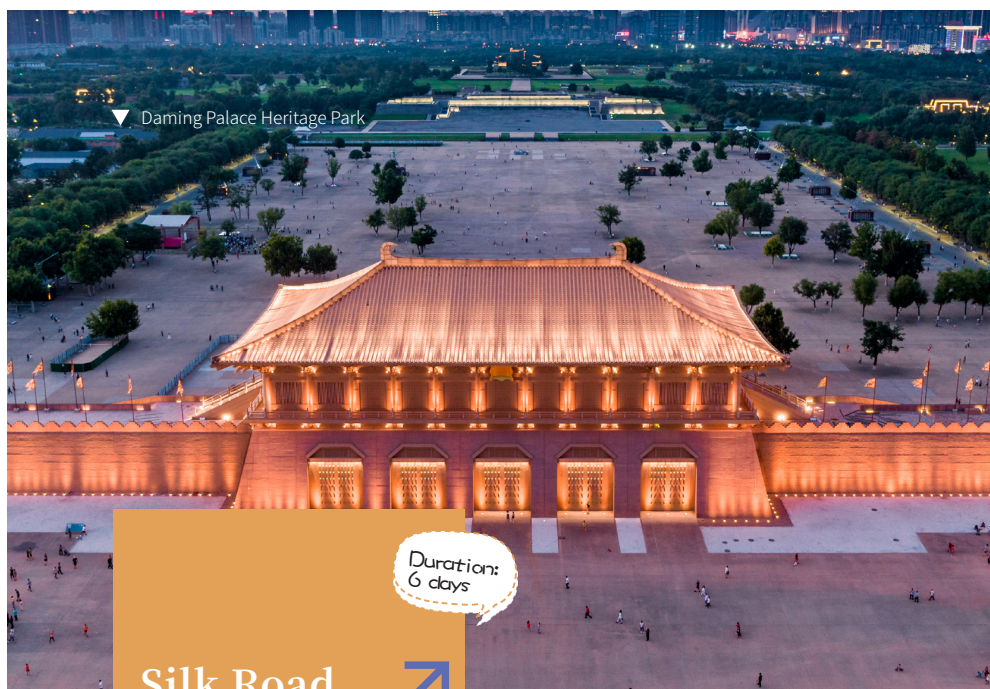


## Chapter 3 CHAPTER THREE

# WHS Tours

Starting from Xi'an, the starting point of the Silk Road, and following the world heritage in Shaanxi, we will explore the remaining relics of the Silk Road, the charm of Han and Tang Dynasties, and the beauty of mountains and rivers with different characteristics in the central Shaanxi plain, Northern Shaanxi and Southern Shaanxi.

- Silk roads tours
- Qin culture tours
- Han culture tours
- Tang culture tours
- Eastern Shaanxi routes
- Southern Shaanxi routes
- Western Shaanxi routes
- Northern Shaanxi routes



## Silk Road



### Day 1

- Chang'an Weiyang Palace of the Han Dynasty National Archaeological Site Park
- Daming Palace Heritage Park
- Beiyuanmen Street(Hui's Street)

The first two spots are in the north of Xi'an City: Chang'an Weiyang Palace of the Han Dynasty National Archaeological Site Park(see page 10) and Daming Palace Heritage Park(see page 12), which are about 30 minutes' drive from each other.

The Chang'an Weiyang Palace was the imperial palace of the Western Han Dynasty. More than 2,000 years ago, Zhang Qian was sent from here on a mission to the Western regions by Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty and opened up the Silk Road. The Daming Palace is the representative building of Chang'an City in the Tang Dynasty. Now Daming

Palace Heritage Park has been built on the basis of the ruins. It is suggested that more time be reserved for visiting this palace and visitors visit the Daming Palace Academy-Archaeological Exploration Center in the park, where there are many interesting archaeological experience activities.

In the evening, visitors can go to Beiyuanmen Street(Hui's Street), a famous halal food and cultural street in Xi'an, for food. Hui's Street is bustling with activities at night, where you can eat the most authentic halal snacks in Xi'an, such as Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup and Preserved Beef Roujiamo(Roujiamo is a bun with meat in it).



### Tips:

Please respect Muslim customs when visiting and eating in the street.



▲ Interior view of the Shaanxi History Museum

## Day 2



- The Small Wild Goose Pagoda/Xi'an Museum
- Shaanxi History Museum
- The Big Wild Goose Pagoda

"Small Wild Goose Pagoda-Shaanxi History Museum-Big Wild Goose Pagoda-Grand Tang Mall" is a journey of about 5 km, which can be connected by subway. You can also enjoy the journey by foot to measure the city land.

With a history of more than 1,300 years, the Small Wild Goose Pagoda (see page 20) is a representative building of the dense eaves brick pagoda of the Tang Dynasty, where you can enjoy the performance of Chang'an Ancient Classical Music, shadow puppetry and puppet show. The nearby Xi'an Museum is a national first-grade museum, in which you can see many precious relics like the tri-colored glazed pottery and figurines of noble ladies.

The Shaanxi History Museum has a collection of more than 1.7 million pieces (or groups) of cultural relics among which the street stalls donated "18 national treasures". With just a little attention, you will have a perfect "encounter" with these national cultural relics.

The Big Wild Goose Pagoda (see page 16) is a landmark in Xi'an. The Xuanzang statue in the south square of the Pagoda and the location of the 4th floor platform of the Joy City Mall are excellent photo-taking spots for the Pagoda. It is recommended that you visit it in the afternoon. After visiting the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, you can visit Grand Tang Mall.

### 💡 Tips:

If you are a lover of ancient architecture, you can compare the different architectural styles of the Small Wild Goose Pagoda and the Big Wild Goose Pagoda. The former has the style of dense eaves, while the latter has a pavilion style. Both styles are the basic structure of the ancient Chinese pagoda.



▲ The Small Wild Goose Pagoda





## Day 3

- Bell Tower and Drum Tower
- Xi'an City Wall
- Xi'an Beilin Museum

**The Bell Tower and Drum Tower** is located in the center of Xi'an. There are live cultural performances such as morning bell and evening drum imitation performance and chime performance regularly every day, and please consult the scenic spot for the specific performance time. You can climb the Bell Tower and Drum Tower to experience the ancient city's "morning bell and evening drum" charm.

The Yongning Gate, about 1 kilometer from the Bell Tower, is the welcoming gate of the Xi'an City Wall (see page 34). Visitors can stroll or ride on the wall, enjoying the full sight of the old city. The Shuyuan Gate and Xiangzi Temple near Yongning Gate, the Xi'an Beilin Museum under Wenchang Gate, and Yongxing Residence near the Zhongshan Gate are all popular Instagrammable places for tourists. Huancheng Park, outside the city wall, is a perfect and popular place for citizens to exercise and relax in the morning.

The Xi'an Beilin Museum near the Wenchang Gate is a holy place for calligraphy enthusiasts, where they can enjoy national treasures such as the Stone-Base Classic on Filial Piety and the Six Steeds of Zhaoqing Mausoleum.

### Tips:

The Xi'an City Wall has a number of points for going up, which can be accessed at different gates within one day with the ticket.

## Day 4

- Xingjiao Temple Pagodas
- Caotang Temple

The Xingjiao Temple Pagodas(see page 24) is located in Chang'an District, south of Xi'an, the resting place of Master Xuanzang, and one of the ancestral temples of the Faxiang Sect of Buddhism. The temple is small, but the quiet atmosphere makes it isolated from the world.

Caotang Temple(see page 94), is in Huiyi District of Xi'an City, to the west of Chang'an District. The Kumarajiva Stupa in the temple is a national

### Tips:

Huiyi District(Hu County) is famous for its special snacks-Chinchen Mipi, Airport Roast, etc.

treasure.

If you have enough time, you can head for the west through the Guanzhong Loop Highway and go through a 50-minute drive to the Church of the East in China, one of the earliest temples of Christianity in China. Two km from the Church of the East in China is the Louguantai Scenic Spot, where Lao Tzu taught Tao Te Ching. There are hot spring hotels and homestay hotels.

### ▼ Yongning Gate of Xi'an City Wall





## Day 5



## 📍 The Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes

In Binzhou City of Xianyang City, you can find the largest grottoes in Shaanxi Province and an important milestone of the Silk Road-the Giant Buddhist Temple Grottoes(see page 26). The statue of Amitabha Buddha in the main grotto is 20 meters high.

## 💡 Tips:

There is no need to buy incense when you visit the temple because incense burning is forbidden in it.

## ▲ The Great Buddha Temple Grottoes



## Day 6



## 📍 Tomb of Zhang Qian

It is the last stop of the trip. Go across the Qinling Mountains you will see the Tomb of Zhang Qian in Chenggu County, Hanzhong City(see page 28). At present, a garden-style cultural scenic spot has been built on the basis of Tomb of Zhang Qian, where you can learn about the great life of "Silk Road pioneer" Zhang Qian and his experiences of going to the Western regions and opening up the

## 💡 Tips:

The Chenggu County Museum in the scenic spot of Tomb of Zhang Qian exhibits the unearthed exquisite bronze wares.

Silk Road.

If you have enough time, you are recommended to take a walk in Chenggu County to experience the climate, culture and architectural style that are completely different from Guanzhong.

On the way back to Xi'an, you can visit the Crested Ibis Scenic Spot of Liyuan China and Cai Lun's Tomb in Yangxian County, Hanzhong City.



## Qin Culture

Duration:  
4 days



### Day 1

- Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum
- Huaqing Palace

The Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor and the Pits of Terracotta Warriors and Horses (see page 2) are the first choice for a cultural tour of Shaanxi. In the morning, you can go to Lintong from the city of Xi'an, for a view of the Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum to feel the grandeur of the "underground army".

In the afternoon, you can visit the Huaqing Palace, which was once the royal garden of the Zhou, Qin, Han and Tang Dynasties. As China's first large-scale live-action historical dance drama, the Song of Everlasting Sorrow staged in the scenic spot is a classic work of Shaanxi tourism performance.

"In hot spring, the skin is washed, as white as polished jade." Lintong has been a famous hot spring resort since ancient times, so it is recommended to stay here for one night.

### Day 2

- Emperor Qin II Mausoleum Ruins Park
- The Big Wild Goose Pagoda/Tang Paradise/  
The Grand Tang Mall

The next day you can visit and stay in Qujiang New District, in the south of Xi'an, one of the most well-developed areas for tourism in Xi'an, where Emperor Qin II Mausoleum Ruins Park is located, and there are some nearby attractions such as the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, the Grand Tang Paradise and the Grand Tang Mall. Nowadays, the park is surrounded by modern residential areas. In the park's Qin Elegy Museum, visitors can learn about the history of Qin's rise and fall.



▼ Terracotta Figurine driving a carriage in a seated position in Qinling







▼ Terra-Cotta Warriors

### 💡 Tips: ~

The Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum is composed of the Museum of Terracotta Warriors and Horses and Qin Shi Huang Mausoleum Ruins Park. The two places are about 2 km apart. Visitors can take a free shuttle bus to and from the museum with the ticket.

## Day 3

- Site of the Epang Palace
- Site of Ancient Xianyang Ferry
- Xianyang Museum

The site of the Epang Palace (see page 91) is located in the west of Xi'an. During the reign of Qin Shi Huang, only a huge front hall of Epang Palace was built. Today, a rammed earth platform can be seen in Epang Palace National Archaeological Site Park.

Go west all the way, and you will reach Xianyang. You can find the Site of Ancient Xianyang Ferry in the Qin Dynasty in the Weihe River. Ancient Xianyang Ferry is one of the eight famous sights of the Guanzhong area. When the local farmers took sand from the nearby riverway, they dug out dozens of stakes of even thickness, which have been proved to be the temporary bridge of Ancient Xianyang Ferry after textual research.

The Xianyang Museum is a 10-minute walk from the Site of Ancient Xianyang Ferry, where precious historical relics of the Qin and Han Dynasties can be seen.

## Day 4

- Qin Straight
- Shimen Mountain National Forest Park

Continue to go west, you can have a look at Qin Straight, "the prototype of modern expressways" (see page 92). Qin Straight was first built in 212 BC, running from Xianyang in Shaanxi Province in the south to Baotou in Inner Mongolia in the north, with a length of more than 700 km. Qin Straight has sites in many places of China, among which the one closest to Xianyang City is in Shimen Mountain National Forest Park. You can visit the Qin Straight Cultural Garden, Qin Straight Museum, Shimen Impregnable Pass and other scenic spots in the scenic area which is also a good place to escape the summer heat and enjoy the autumn scenery.



## Han Culture

Duration:  
3days



### 💡Tips:

The Han Yangling Museum is a 30-minute drive from Xi'an Xianyang International Airport. If you come to Xi'an by plane, you might as well make it the first or last stop of your journey.

## Day 1

- Han Yangling Museum
- Xianyang Museum

The Han Yangling Museum (see page 39) mainly includes the Nanquemen Site Exhibition Hall, the Protection Exhibition Hall of the Outer Pit of the Emperor's Mausoleum, and the Archaeological Exhibition Hall. Among them, the second is the world's first fully underground site museum built with the most advanced heritage conservation technology. The artifacts and visitors are separated in two environments of very different temperatures and humidity, which provides an extremely unique tourist experience while maximizing the scientific protection of cultural heritage remains. Visitors walk on a transparent glass and can see the 2,000-year-old Western Han burial pits up close beneath their feet.

The Xianyang Museum is located in the city of Xianyang, where the most precious treasure is the three thousand painted Terracotta Warriors and Horses of the Western Han Dynasty. Terracotta Warriors and Horses of the Western Han Dynasty are smaller in size than those of the Qin Dynasty, but their colors are of great value.



▲ Emperor Jingdi's Yangling Museum of the Han Dynasty



▲ Kunming Pool · Qixi Park

### Tips

A small town named Shijingli, which means "in the Book of Odes", near the Kunming pool, is a great place to relax, with a collection of Shaanxi cuisine and characteristic hotels.

## Day 2

- Mao Mausoleum
- Mawei
- Kunming Pool · Qixi Park

The 11 Western Han imperial mausoleums are all located in Xi'an City and Xianyang City, Shaanxi Province, and the Mao Mausoleum (see page 40) is the largest of them all, with the longest construction period and the most burial objects. The Maoling Mausoleum is one kilometer from the Mao Mausoleum. You don't need to buy an additional ticket to enjoy the national treasures such as Mao Mausoleum stone carvings and gilt bronze horses, as well as free chime performance.

Mawei, not far from Mao Mausoleum, is the place where Yang Yuhuan died. Now a folk culture experience park has been built here, where you can taste authentic Shaanxi snacks.

In the evening, you can go to Kunming Pool · Qixi Park, where Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty used to drill his navy more than 2,000 years ago. At night, there is a musical light show near the statue of the navy.

## Day 3

- Site of Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty
- Hancheng Lake
- Du Mausoleum (Duyi Heritage Park/Shanglin Imperial Park)

In the morning of the third day, you can pay a visit to the Chang'an Weiyang Palace of the Han Dynasty National Archaeological Site Park (see page 10) and Hancheng Lake. The Weiyang Palace in Chang'an City of the Han Dynasty is the largest palace complex in ancient China. You can go boating in the lake.

In the afternoon, you may choose the Du Mausoleum in the south of Xi'an (see page 41) and visit the closest Han imperial Mausoleum to downtown Xi'an. Duyi Heritage Park is an urban park built around the site of the Du Mausoleum. In the exhibition area of the history, culture and ruins of the Du Mausoleum, visitors can learn about the culture of the Han Dynasty and the life of Emperor Xuan of the Han Dynasty. To get a closer look at the grave mound of the Du Mausoleum, you should walk into Shanglin Imperial Park next to the Duyi Ruins Park, which was once a royal garden during the Han Dynasty.





Duration:  
4 days

## Tang culture tours



▲ The Grand Tang mall

### Day 1

- Daming Palace Heritage Park
- Xi'an City Wall

The Tang Dynasty was one of the most powerful dynasties in Chinese history. A cultural tour of the Tang Dynasty might as well start with the Daming Palace, the national symbol of the Tang Empire. In the morning, you can visit Daming Palace Heritage Park(see page 12), and visit Hanyuan Hall, Xuanzheng Hall and Zichen Hall in the heritage protection area.

In the afternoon, you can climb the Xi'an City Wall from the Anyuan Gate, which is the closest to the Daming Palace (see page 34). With a ticket to the Xi'an City Wall, you can enter the Xi'an Tang Hanguang Gate Museum for free, where you can see the site of the city wall of the Tang Dynasty. Yongxingfang near the Zhongshan Gate of the Xi'an City Wall is one of the 108 Residential Areas in the Tang Chang'an City and is now a popular Instagrammable food place for tourists.

### Day 2

- Small Wild Goose Pagoda/Xi'an Museum
- Big Wild Goose Pagoda/Tang Paradise/Grand Tang Mall

This day, you can walk near the quiet Small Wild Goose Pagoda(see page 20) and into the Xi'an Museum to explore the national treasures, and experience the atmosphere of the Tang Dynasty in the areas of Big Wild Goose Pagoda(see page 16) and the Tang Paradise.

The Grand Tang Mall near the South Square of the Big Wild Goose Pagoda is a famous night touring area in Xi'an. When the night falls, the iridescent light of the Grand Tang Mall brings people back to the Tang Dynasty, with sleepless nights.

### Tips:

Every Spring Festival the Tang Paradise will hold the Spring Festival Lantern Show, reproducing the scene of the Lantern Festival in the capital of the Tang Dynasty.



## Day 3

- Huaqing Palace
- Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum

In Lintong District of Xi'an you can spend a day in the Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum(see page 2) and the Huaqing Palace. The Huaqing Palace is one of the most famous Tang cultural tourist attractions in Shaanxi Province. In the evening, you can watch the live performance of the Song of Everlasting Sorrow in the scenic spot and appreciate the love story of Emperor Xuanzong and Yang Yuhuan. There are many hot spring resort hotels in Lintong, where you can take a bath in hot spring of the same style of that of Yang Yuhuan to relieve the fatigue.

 Tips

Huaqing Royal Bath/Hot Spring/Hotel is located to the west of the Huaqing Palace. You can enjoy the scenic spot for free if you book the hotel.

## Day 4

- Qian Mausoleum
- Zhao Mausoleum
- Yuanjia Village

There are nine imperial mausoleums of the Tang Dynasty in Xianyang City, the most famous of which are the Qian Mausoleum and Zhao Mausoleum(see pages 43-44). The Qian Mausoleum is located in Qianxian County, Xianyang City, and the highlight is the Stele Without Inscription, stone carvings on the passage before the tomb. The ticket for the Qian Mausoleum scenic spot allows the visit of the main scenic spot, Qianling Museum and burial tombs.

The Zhao Mausoleum, located in Liquan County, Xianyang City, is the largest of the Eighteen Mausoleums of the Tang Dynasty. The Zhaoling Museum is 15 km from the Zhao Mausoleum. The museum needs another ticket. The Zhaoling Mausoleum Forest on display here is of great historical value.

Yuanjia Village at the foot of the Zhao Mausoleum has won the title of "Top Ten Beautiful Villages in China". It has snack streets, bars, teahouses and homestay hotels. It is a good place for leisure and vacation.

## ▼ Qianling Stone Statue



Duration:  
4-5 days

## Eastern Shaanxi



### Day 1

- Lishan Mountain/Huaqing Palace
- Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum

From downtown Xi'an, you can go east to enjoy the beauty of Shaanxi's great mountains and rivers. The Lishan Mountain where Huaqing Palace is located, has numerous cultural relics and historical sites. When the sun goes down, you can enjoy the "Lishan Mountain Evening Glow", one of the eight famous sights of the Guanzhong area.

Of course, Shaanxi's most famous world heritage site, the Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum (see page 2), is also a must-see spot in eastern Shaanxi.

### Day 2-3

- Huashan Mountain
- Xiyue Temple/Xianyu Valley

From Lintong, you can head to the Huashan Mountain, known as "the steepest mountain in the world" (see page 46). You can choose the West Peak cableway, the North Peak cableway or walking for going up the mountain. Night climbing usually starts at night and visitors arrive at the East Peak in the morning to watch the sunrise. The Hawk's Turning and the Changkong Skywalk and some other attractions are very dangerous-do not miss them if you are an adventure lover.

With the Huashan Mountain ticket, you can visit the Xiyue Temple and Xianyu Valley for free. In the temple, you can see the panorama of the Huashan Mountain. Xianyu Valley is a valley at the foot of the Huashan Mountain, and one of the "seventy-two valleys of the Qinling Mountains", suitable for avoiding summer heat.

There are many accommodation options around the Huashan Mountain: youth hotels, homestay hotels, and star hotels, with different qualities and corresponding prices. Among them, the hot spring hotels are more suitable for relieving fatigue after hiking.

#### ☀ Tips:

The Huashan Mountain is famous for its "danger". Pay extra attention to safety when climbing the mountain; do not walk and enjoy the views at the same time.





## Day 4

- Tongguan Ancient City
- Hechuan Scenic Spot

In Day 4, you can bid farewell to the mountains and greet the river. The ancient city of Tongguan is only 30 minutes' drive from the Huashan Mountain. On the newly built archaized tower, you can overlook the mighty Yellow River. Shuipo Alley is the only old street left in the ancient city.

You can head north along Yanhuang Highway, a stunning highway built along the west bank of the Yellow River which connects more than 50 tourist attractions in Shaanxi. Among them, the Hechuan Scenic Area is a lake-type wetland, whose main attraction is the Virgin Spring, where you can experience natural hot spring.

Tongguan Roujiamo is slightly different from Xi'an Roujiamo, but tastes as flavourful as it. Do not

## Day 5

- Sima Qian Temple
- Hancheng Ancient city
- Dangjia Village

Continue going north, and you will arrive in Hancheng, a national historical and cultural city located on the bank of the Yellow River, where the Sima Qian Temple, the Hancheng Ancient city and the Dangjia Village are the representative scenic spots(see page 48). Among them, Dangjia Village is known as the "living fossil of the village inhabited by the ancient traditional civilization of Oriental people".

### 💡Tips:

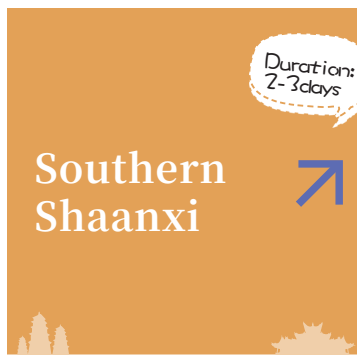
Tongguan Rou Jia Mo is slightly different from Xi'an Rou Jia Mo, but the same delicacy is not to be missed.



◀ Tongguan Rou Jia Mo

▼ The Dang' s village





## Day 1

- Xingjiao Temple Pagodas
- Shaanxi Archaeological Museum

Most of Xi'an's famous Buddhist temples are located south of the city, under the Qinling Mountains. Xingjiao Temple, where you can see Xingjiao Temple Pagodas, a World Heritage site(see page 24), is the resting place of Master Xuanzang. If time permits, after visiting the Xingjiao Temple, you can also choose to visit other temples. Among them, the Huayan Temple and Xiangji Temple are closer to downtown Xi'an, while the Xingjiao Temple and Caotang Temple are farther away.

The Shaanxi Archaeological Museum near the Xiangji Temple is the first archaeology-themed museum in China. It exhibits the archaeological achievements of Shaanxi over the past 100 years and more than 5,000 precious cultural relics.

## Day 2

- Tomb of Zhang Qian
- Wumen Weir

Starting from Xi'an, along the Beijing-Kunming Expressway, you can reach the Tomb of Zhang Qian in Chenggu County, Hanzhong City(see page 28), where you can learn about the experiences in the Western Regions of this "pioneer of the Silk Road".

The Wumen Weir (see page 93), 15 km from the Tomb of Zhang Qian, is one of the "Three Weirs of Hanzhong", a world heritage irrigation project with a history of more than 2,000 years.

## Day 3

- Shimen Ancient Plank Road(Sunvo Weir)
- Hanzhong Museum

Shimen Ancient Plank Road is a scenic spot with many attractions, including Shimen, "the world's earliest man-made traffic tunnel", and the world irrigation project heritage site, Sunvo Weir. Walking along the plank road, you can enjoy the scenery of the reservoir, and the "fish in the Baohe River". The stone carvings on the cliff of Shimen, known as the "national treasure", are now collected in the Hanzhong Museum.



▲ Shimen Ancient Plank Road



▼ Famen Temple

## Western Shaanxi

Duration:  
4 days



### Day 1

- Zhengguo Canal Irrigation System
- Zhaoqing Museum
- Yuanjia Village

**The Zhengguo Canal Irrigation System**(see page 93) is located in Xianyang City, Shaanxi Province. There are Jinghe River Grand Canyon, Black Trench-like Gorge, Jinghe River Geopark and other scenic spots in the scenic area. Tourists can experience boat sightseeing, walking along the plank road, warrior rafting and other projects.

The Zhengguo Canal Irrigation System is not far from Yuanjia Village and Zhaoqing Museum. The distance is about a 30 minutes' drive. You can plan a 1-2 day tour route of "the Zhengguo Canal Irrigation System-Yuanjia Village-Zhaoqing Museum".

### Day 2

- Qian Mausoleum
- Famen Temple
- Zhouyuan Museum

**The Qian Mausoleum**(see page 43) is the place where Li Zhi, Emperor Gaozong of the Tang Dynasty, and his wife Wu Zetian were buried together. It is the only tomb in the world where a couple of emperor and empress were buried together. You might as well try the local specialty "Qianzhou Four Treasures" at noon.

The Famen Temple is a sacred place of Buddhism and a national 5A-rated tourist attraction. You can see Sakyamuni's relics here. The Zhouyuan Museum, located 10 km from the Famen Temple, exhibits valuable relics unearthed from the Zhouyuan site(see page 89).

### Day 3

- Zhou Gong Temple
- Zhuge Liang Temple, Wuzhangyuan

The Zhou Gong Temple and Zhuge Liang Temple are located in Qishan County, Baoji City. Qishan snacks, with Minced Noodles and Ganmianpi(steamed rolled dough) as the iconic ones, are very famous. You can taste the local rural tourism restaurants in Beiguo Folk Village near the Zhou Gong Temple.





▲ Hukou Waterfall

## Northern Shaanxi

Duration:  
4-5 days



### ☀ Tips: ~

All the way to the north, you can enjoy the magnificent scenery of Shaanxi. Let's go!

## Day 1



- Huangdi Mausoleum
- Hukou Waterfall

The first stop on the northern route of Shaanxi is the Huangdi Mausoleum (see page 88), the “first mausoleum under heaven”, a place where descendants of the Huangdi from all over the world worship their ancestors. The 5,000-year history of Chinese civilization has been witnessed by the “Huang Emperor’s Hand-planted Cypress”.

Located on the border of Shanxi Province and Shaanxi Province, the Hukou Waterfall is a spectacular place where water from the Yellow River pours down. It should be noted that the Shaanxi Hukou Waterfall and the Shanxi Hukou Waterfall are two scenic spots, each charging admission fees.



## Day 2

- Yulin Defense City
- Zhenbeitai
- Red Stone Gorge

Continue the journey to the north, and you will come to the northernmost city in Shaanxi Province to enjoy the customs of the places to the north of the Great Wall. Yulin Defense City is in the city of Yulin, whose highlights are the Six Towers on the Street, Yulin Old Street, Lingxiao Pagoda and other historical sites.

The Zhenbei Beacon Tower(see page 30) and the Red Stone Gorge are only one way apart, about 3 km from the city. It is recommended to go to the Zhenbei Beacon Tower first and feel the grandeur of "the first fort of the Great Wall". Both sides of the stone walls of the Red Stone Gorge have calligraphy and stone carvings of men of letters. At sunset, you can also see one of the "eight famous sights in Yulin", "Red Mountain at Sunset".

## Day 3

- Gaojiabu Ancient City
- Site of Shimao

 Tips:

Please do not step on the red sandstone during the tour. Let's protect this precious natural landscape together.

## Day 4-5

- Site of Tongwan City
- Wave Valley

The last stop on the northern route is the Tongwan City site(see page 50) and Wave Valley in Jingbian County, Yulin City. Tongwan City is the ruins of the capital built by the Xiongnu people more than 1,600 years ago. It is known locally as "White City" because of its white walls.

Wave Valley is a red sandstone landform with an area of tens of kilometers, where you can see the Danxia landform with an area of hundreds of kilometers shaped like waves. Especially on the sunny days after rain, the color of red sandstone is brighter.

The Gaojiabu Ancient City located in the northeast of Yulin is a well-preserved city of the Ming Dynasty that was the shooting location for the TV series *The Ordinary World*.

The Shimao site(see page 52), about 5 km from the Gaojiabu Ancient City, is a capital city-level site with a history of about 4,000 years and is regarded as one of the most important archaeological discoveries in China in the 21st century.

 The Wave Valley



▲ Shadow puppet making



## Chapter 4 CHAPTER FOUR

# Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in Shaanxi

---

According to the definition in Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage by the UNESCO, the "intangible cultural heritage" refers to all kinds of social practice, expressions of concept, patterns of manifestation, knowledge, skills, and related tools, physical objects, handicrafts and cultural places, inherited from generation to generation as a part of cultural heritage, and is the important sign of achievement of the national history and culture of a country. At present, the following projects in Shaanxi have been included in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity:

### Intangible Cultural Heritage

- Xi'an Drum Music
- Chinese Paper Cutting
- Chinese Shadow Puppetry

▼ Dongcang Drum Music

## Xi'an Drum Music



### Tips:

Xi'an Drum Music has two forms of performance: "sitting music" and "walking music". Sitting music is chamber music with more than a dozen blowing instruments and percussion instruments together producing shocking grand sound effects. Walking music is played on the move, which has a carnival sense of "parade".

Xi'an Drum Music originated from the court banquet music of the Tang Dynasty that was later incorporated into the court music. It went among the people with the dispersion of the court musicians during the An-Shi Rebellion. It is a typical kind of music in Chinese traditional instrumental music culture, and is regarded as a "living fossil of ancient Chinese music". In 2009, it was included in Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Xi'an Drum Music has a rich repertoire, a wide range of contents, a variety of tuning, and a large and complex musical forms, and still maintains a fairly complete repertoire, tablature, structures, instruments and performance forms. Some of the most widely circulated pieces are "Drum Play", "Dazhazi" and "Intrada".

Xi'an Drum Music was once on the verge of extinction and urgently needed to be rescued and protected because the folk cultural environment on which it depended was gradually dying out. In the 21st century, the artistic charm of Xi'an Drum Music staying up-to-date has been continuously explored and demonstrated through a series of rescue and protection measures. At present, six wind and percussion ensemble societies, namely Dongcang Drum Music Club, Du Chenghuangmiao Drum Music Club, Dajichang Drum Music Club, Hejiaying Drum Music Club, Nanjixian East Village Drum Music Club and Nanjixian West Village Drum Music Club, are still giving performances.



## Performance Places

### 📍 Tang Paradise

Dongcang Drum Music Club performs Drum, one piece of court banquet music of the Tang Dynasty, in the Ziyun Tower of Tang Paradise, truly reproducing the elegant and grand court music of the Tang Dynasty. The show lasts about 50 minutes and the ticket starts at CNY 138.

- 📍 No.99, Furong West Road, Qujiang New District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-85511888
- 💰 Free (Free with the performance ticket)
- 🕒 09:00-22:00

### 📍 Shaanxi Grand Opera House

You can enjoy the court music and dance of the Tang Dynasty, while tasting the snack banquet, jiaozi banquet, banquet of Tang style with the Shaanxi characteristics.

- 📍 No.161, Wenyi North Road, Beilin District, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87853295

### 📍 Xi'an Drum Music Exhibition Hall

Hejiaying Drum Music Club is one of the traditional drum music clubs in Xi'an. Hejiaying Village is the "home of drum music". There is the only folk drum music exhibition hall in Xi'an, which displays more than 100 volumes of drum music scores, more than 1000 pieces of music and musical instruments from the Ming and Qing Dynasties.

- 📍 Hejiaying Village, Chang'an District, Xi'an

### 📍 City God Temple

Every year during the Spring Festival, temple fairs and other festivals, Du Chenghuangmiao Drum Music Club has irregular performances.

- 📍 No.129, West Street, Xi'an
- ☎ 029-87278333
- 💰 Free
- 🕒 08:00-17:30



▲ Dongcang Drum Music





▲ Window Paper-cuts

#### Tips:

Window paper-cutting is the most common form of Shaanxi paper-cut. The window paper cutting in Guanzhong and southern Shaanxi is more delicate and has more styles, while the paper-cut in northern Shaanxi mainly uses unicolor paper, with simple and plain styles and the focus on exaggerated transformation.

## Chinese Paper Cutting



Chinese paper cutting is a kind of folk art that uses scissors or carving knife to cut patterns on paper, which is used as decoration of life or folk activities. Originated from Chinese folk, Chinese paper cutting has a profound mass foundation and occupies a very important position in Chinese folk art. Paper cutting contains rich cultural and historical information, and expresses the social cognition, moral concept, practical experience, life ideals and aesthetic taste of the masses. In 2009, Chinese paper cutting was included in Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Since ancient times, paper-cut has been very popular among the people. Window paper cutting is one of the important customs of the Spring Festival, which also makes paper-cut own thousands of years of inheritance, always full of fresh vitality. Fengxiang, Fuping, Sanyuan and Qianyang in the Guanzhong area, Dingbian, Jingbian, Wubu, Yichuan and Mizhi in northern Shaanxi, and Zhen'an and Shanyang in southern Shaanxi are well-known for their folk paper-cut.



▲ Ku Shulan's Work "Window Paper-Cutting Lady"

## Exhibition Places

### Shaanxi Exhibition Pavilion of Intangible Cultural Heritage

It is the first professional museum with a comprehensive and systematic set of the province's intangible cultural heritage in Shaanxi. In addition, there is a 360° panoramic online intangible cultural heritage exhibition hall, with which people can visit the museum online without leaving home.

📍 Xiqi Road, Xincheng District, Xi'an

💰 Free

🕒 10:00-16:00



Online ICH Exhibition Hall  
QR Code



### Ansai Museum

More than 1,000 pieces of local history and folk art are displayed in seven exhibition areas, including Folk Paper-cut, Folk Painting, Ansai Folk Songs and Ansai Waist Drum.

📍 Zhenwu Street, Ansai District, Yan'an

☎ 0911-6216219

### Suide County Intangible Cultural Heritage Gallery

Suide is rich in resources of historical and folk culture. Xi Jinping, General Secretary, once paid a visit here, and appreciated the intangible cultural heritage on display like the stone carvings, paper cutting, folk songs and clay figurines.

📍 Xishan Road, Suide County, Yulin



## Chinese Shadow Puppetry



▲ Shadow Puppet

### Tips:

Shadow puppets are exquisitely shaped and have strong folk characteristics. They are small and light, and thus are very suitable to be souvenirs.

Shadow puppetry is a form of opera in which figures are cut with animal skins or cardboard and stories are performed by lighting the figures. It is one of the earliest forms of opera in China, born in the Western Han Dynasty more than 2,000 years ago, and is commonly known as shadow play. In 2011, Chinese shadow puppetry was included in Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Shaanxi is the birthplace of Chinese shadow puppetry, of which Hua County is the most famous. With the integration with different regional cultures, Shaanxi shadow puppetry has more than ten singing tunes, such as Old Opera, Wanwanqiang Opera, Xianbanqiang Opera and Agongqiang Opera. For hundreds of years, shadow puppetry has been keeping its vigor and charm and inherited well on this yellow land.

The puppets of shadow puppetry are usually leather products made by folk artists with hand, knife carving and colored drawing, so they are called shadow puppets. For needed sturdiness and transparency, it is better to make shadow puppets with calf skin or donkey skin. Shadow puppet making includes silk painting, stone-carved picture, portrait brick in the Han Dynasty, temple murals in the Tang and Song Dynasties and other techniques and styles. The process is composed of 24 procedures such as cutting, grinding, washing, engraving and coloring. As an important carrier of shadow puppetry, shadow puppets convey and carry the profound artistic beauty of traditional Chinese culture, which has great value for viewing and collecting.





▲ Shadow Puppetry

## Performance place

### Xi'an Shadow Puppet Art Museum

The museum, which is open to the public for free, has a collection of more than 200 national treasure-class shadow puppets, which are mainly Donglu puppets.

📍 Yunnan 1st Road, Qujiang New District, Xi'an (north of Xi'an Concert Hall)

☎ 15319922816

💰 Free

🕒 13:00-17:00 on weekdays, 11:00-17:00 on weekends

### Huazhou Shadow Puppet Culture Park

Huazhou District of Weinan City is the hometown of Chinese shadow puppets. There is the shadow puppetry theater, shadow puppet museum, production workshop and intangible cultural heritage training house in the park. You can watch shadow puppetry performances and experience shadow puppet production.

📍 About 300 meters to the north of Shaohua Mountain Service Center, Huazhou District, Weinan

☎ 0913-4729966

💰 Free (separate ticket required for performances)

### Small Wild Goose Pagoda · Wild Goose Garden

The Wild Goose Garden near the north gate of the scenic spot has many Shaanxi folk experience projects. The shadow puppet show lasts about 20 minutes and is performed on a daily basis. The ticket price is CNY 30. Puppetry, shadow puppet making and rubbing are also well worth watching and participating in.

📍 No.72, Youyi West Road, Beilin District, Xi'an

☎ 029-87803591

💰 Free (except performances)

🕒 09:00-18:00 in peak season, 09:00-17:30 in off season, closed every Tuesday (except legal national holidays) and New Year's Eve

### Gao's Grand Courtyard

In this ancient dwelling deep in the busy city, you can watch shadow puppetry, and experience the folk arts of Shaanxi such as paper cutting. Shadow puppetry lasts 15 to 30 minutes, and the ticket costs CNY 15. You can buy shadow puppets after watching.

📍 Beiyuanmen Fengqing Street (Hui's Street), Lianhu District, Xi'an

☎ 029-87401029

💰 CNY 15 (separate ticket required for performances)

🕒 09:00-22:00



▲ Museum of Technique of Making Jingyang Brick Tea

## ➤ Traditional Tea Making Techniques and the Associated Social Practices in China

### ➤ Technique of Making Xianyang Fu Tea

“Traditional Tea Making Techniques and the Associated Social Practices in China” consists of knowledge, skills and practices concerning management of tea plantations, picking of tea leaves, and the making, drinking and sharing of tea. Since ancient times, the Chinese people have been growing, picking, making and drinking tea. According to the local terroir, tea makers apply the core techniques including shaqing (enzyme inactivation), menhuang (yellowing), wodui (piling), weidiao (withering), zuoqing (leaves shaking and cooling), fajiao (oxidation or fermentation) and yinzhi (scenting), and have developed over 2,000 tea varieties, mainly in six categories-green, yellow, dark, white, oolong, and black, as well as re-processed tea such as flower tea, for drinking and sharing, and thus different practices have formed. The practices have been passed down from generation to generation and are still present in the daily life, rituals and festivals of the Chinese people.

“Traditional Tea Making Techniques and the Associated Social Practices in China” were added to UNESCO’s Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity on November 29th, 2022. Moreover and importantly, the included “Technique of Making Xianyang Fu Tea” of Shaanxi Province was also added to the list as a subitem.

The mature and developed traditional tea making techniques and their extensive and in-depth social practice reflect the creativity and cultural diversity of the Chinese nation, and meanwhile convey the concept of “Tea contributes to harmony, tolerance and inclusion”. Through tea making, tea brewing and tea tasting, the Chinese people have cultivated a calm and tolerant mind, formed a subtle and restrained character, and enhanced their spiritual and moral cultivation. Tea drinking and sharing is an important way for people to communicate and exchange, and tea-related etiquette and customs such as “treating guests with tea” and “putting the elders first” show the Chinese people’s humanistic spirit of modesty, harmony, courtesy and respect.



## ➤ Tips for “Fu Tea”

Fu Tea is a kind of fermented tea, made through a series of processes including piling of the ingredients, boiling out tea glazes, frying tea with tea glazes, filling the mould with tea, hammering tea with a clapper, punching holes and strapping and natural storing (for the growth of *eurotium cristatum*). In particular, the processed tea leaves will eventually grow plump “golden flowers” (i.e. *eurotium cristatum*), rich in aroma and taste.

The history of Fu Tea began in the Northern Song Dynasty during the reign of Emperor Xining (1068), and flourished in the first year of the reign of Emperor Hongwu in the Ming Dynasty. In the Ming and Qing Dynasties, Fu Tea, as one of the tea categories with a thousand-year history, is an important material for the exchange for horses of ethnic minorities on the frontier, contributing to the rise of the “Ancient Tea Horse Road”.



▲ Fu Tea

## Places for Experience

### ➤ Xianyang Fu Tea Exhibition Hall/ Xianyang Fu Tea Exhibition Gallery

- 📍 Address: First Floor, Intangible Cultural Heritage Museum, Xianyang City Public Cultural Center, Jingqi Road, Shuangzhao Sub-district, Qindu District, Xianyang City, Shaanxi Province
- ☎ 18209101333
- 🎫 Ticket: Free

### ➤ Jiangyang Yuxingchong Fu Tea Historical and Cultural Museum

- 📍 Address: First Floor, Intangible Cultural Heritage Museum, Xianyang City Public Cultural Center, Jingqi Road, Shuangzhao Sub-district, Qindu District, Xianyang City, Shaanxi Province
- ☎ 029-36212444
- 🎫 Ticket: Free

### ➤ Museum of Technique of Making Jingyang Brick Tea

- 📍 Address: East Section of Jinggan Street, Jingyang County, Xianyang City, Shaanxi Province
- ☎ 029-36215553
- 🎫 Ticket: Free

### ➤ Yi Sheng Yuan Ji Jingwei Fu Tea Workshop

- 📍 Address: Jingwei Fu Tea Factory (New), Wenxing Road, Maquan Sub-district, Qindu District, Xianyang City, Shaanxi Province
- ☎ 4008406806
- 🎫 Ticket: Free



▲ China Fu Tea Culture Museum





## National Intangible Cultural heritage



Traditional drama



Huayin Ditty.Tongzhou Bangzi(also Old Qin Opera). Heyang Leaping Drama.Qin Opera.Reed Opera.Han Opera with Double Flute.Shangluo Flower Drum .Hua County Shadow Puppetry.Huayin Old Opera.Aogongqiang Opera. Xuanbanqiang Opera.Heyang Marionette Show. Er-Ren-Tai.Xianziqiang Opera.Shangluo Tao Tsing Opera. Meihu Opera.Shaanxi Rod-puppet Show.Wanwanqiang Opera (in Weinan).



Technique of Making Broussonetia Papyrifera Paper.  
Technique of Cooking Tong Sheng Xiang Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup.  
Technique of Making Yaozhou Kiln Ceramics.  
Technique of Making Chengcheng Yaotou Kiln Ceramics.  
Pucheng Pole Fire Skill.  
Technique of Making Jiahua Fireworks.  
Technique of Building Northern Shaanxi Cave Dwelling.  
Technique of Building Traditional Residences in the Guanzhong Area.  
Technique of Traditional Distilling (the brewing technique of Xifeng Liquor).  
Technique of Making Dark Tea(Technique of Making Xianyang Fuzhuan Brick Tea).  
Traditional Technique of Making Wheaten Food(Technique of Cooking Sun's Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup).  
Traditional Technique of Making Wheaten Food(Technique of Cooking Jia San' s Soup Dumplings).

Traditional skills



Folk custom



Yaowang Mountain Temple Fair.Huangdi Mausoleum Sacrificial Rites. Shehuo .Yan Emperor Sacrificial Rites.Yangxian County Hanging Platform Shehuo.Sima Qian Folk Sacrifice.Binxian County Lantern Show.Welcoming City God Ceremony .Custom of Convention(Lv' s Village Etiquette).



Huangling Flower-like Bun.Xiqin Embroidery.Chengcheng Embroidery.Northern Shaanxi Master Painting.Fengxiang New Year Wood-block Picture.Ansai Paper Cutting.Fengxiang Clay Sculpture.Yanchuan Paper Cutting.Xunyi Paper Cutting. Suide Stone Carving Skills.Stone Carving Skills in Gongli Town, Fuping County.Rattan Plaited Articles(Hanzhong Rattan Plaited Articles).

Traditional art



Traditional music



Northern Shaanxi' s Folk Songs.Zhenba Folk Songs. Hancheng drum.Taoist music of Baiyun Mountain.Ziyang Folk Songs.Xi'an Drum Music.Lantian Pu Hua Walking Music. Suimi Suona Horn.Gaoling Tonso.Yangxian Buddhist Music. XunYang Folk Songs.Guqin Art.Suona Art(Zichang Suona Horn).



Hengshan Traditional Waist Drum.Jingbian Racedonkey Dance.Northern Shaanxi Yangko. Ansai Waist Drum.Luochuan Jumping Drum. Yichuan Chest Drum.

Traditional dance





### Ballad Singing



Northern Shaanxi Tao Tsing, Meihu Opera, Hancheng Yangko, Shaanxi Storytelling, Yulin Ditty, Luonan Telling and Singing, Shaanxi Clapper Talk, Zhou Huayi's Magic.



Legend of Cai Lun Papermaking, Legend of Cowherd and Weaving Maiden, Legend of Hua Mulan, Legend of Cangjie, Northern Shaanxi Folk Proverb, Legend of Zhang Qian.



### Folk Literature



### Traditional sports, recreation and acrobatics



Red Boxing



Ma Mingren plaster making skill, Traditional Chinese Bone Setting (Zhu's Bone Setting skill)



### Traditional medicine



## Shaanxi Opera Performance Place: Xi'an Yisu Theater Cultural District

Shaanxi Opera is one of the most popular folk arts in Shaanxi Province and one of the oldest operas in China. It was formed from the rich and diverse history and culture of Shaanxi Province. Based on the Guanzhong dialect of Shaanxi Province, it has simple, bold and unrestrained performance techniques, a wide variety of singing, performing and musical instruments, and a rich content and a large number of plays.



▲ Qin Opera



▲ Sun's Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup

## ➤ Technique of Cooking Sun's Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup

Performance Place: Xi'an Yisu Theater Cultural District

Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup is a representative snack of halal food in Shaanxi, and that of which the Sun's House is the most famous. As early as the pre-Qin period, Shaanxi had a food tradition of "Qin people are good at cooking mutton and mutton soup." Founded in 1898, the Sun's House is famous at home and abroad for its Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup, halal dishes and pure national flavor snacks. Its Pita Bread Soaked in Beef and Mutton Soup has won the honor of "China's Time-honored Brand" and "International Famous Snack".



▲ Fengxiang clay sculpture

## ➤ Fengxiang Clay Sculpture

Experience Places: Nisu Village, Fengxiang County, Baoji City Baoji Folk Museum

Fengxiang Clay Sculpture is the folk handicraft of Baoji. It draws on the decorations in ancient Chinese stone carvings, New Year pictures, paper cutting and embroidery. It has exaggerated shapes and bright colors, with strong local flavor, high folk culture, folk art and aesthetic value. It is a good souvenir, and local people place it in their homes to pray for blessings.





## ✦ Xiqin Embroidery

Experience Places: Xifu Old Street,  
Baoji City Baoji Folk Museum

Xiqin Embroidery is a popular folk embroidery art in Baoji. Embroidery remains have been found in the tomb of Lady Jing of the Western Zhou Dynasty in Baoji, which shows that embroidery has a very long history in the local area. Xiqin Embroidery has rich themes and bright colors. With thousands of years of inheritance, Xiqin Embroidery has long been integrated into the daily life of local people's weddings and funerals.



▼ A celadon vase with engraved flowers and entwined peonies

## ✦ Technique of Making Yaozhou Kiln Ceramics

Experience Places: Tongchuan Chenlu Ancient Town, Yaozhou Kiln Museum

Yaozhou Kiln was started in the Tang Dynasty, matured in the Five Dynasties, reached its peak in the Song Dynasty, and gradually declined in the Yuan Dynasty. However, the furnace has continued to make fire today, and the skills have been passed on for thousands of years. Yaozhou Kiln Ceramics occupies an important historical position in the history of Chinese ceramics, and even in the history of global ceramics. It is known as the "champion of celadon carving in the Song Dynasty".

## ✦ Legend of Cangjie

Experience place: Cangjie Temple, Baishui County, Weinan City; Cangjie Town, Luonan County, Shangluo City

"Cangjie Making Characters" is an ancient Chinese folklore story of the Han nationality. It is an oral literature that has been passed on by people in dialects since ancient times. It tells the process of making characters by Cangjie and expresses the gratitude and worship of local people to Cangjie.

▼ Baishui Cangjie Temple



▲ Making Characters by Cangjie



## Ansai Waist Drum

Performance Places: Fengjiaying Village, Ansai District, Yan 'an City, Hukou Waterfall Scenic Spot

Ansai is the ancient Chinese garrison at reclaiming and military war. Waist drum has the function of giving alarms and passing information. Later, with the end of the war, it gradually developed into a folk entertainment activity, integrating dance, gymnastics, percussion, blowing music, folk songs, etc., which is more ornamental and entertaining, forming a folk skill with a unique style in the loess culture.



▲ Waist drum

## The Huangdi Mausoleum Sacrificial Rites

Experience Place: Huangdi Mausoleum Scenic Area, Huangling County, Yan 'an City

Huangdi, with the surname of Xuanyuan, was regarded as the first ancestor of the Chinese nation. As early as more than 2000 years ago, the ancestors had a grand ceremony for the tomb of Huangdi. After the Han Dynasty, worship to Huangdi formed the official regulations. Today, the Huangdi Mausoleum Sacrificial Rites has become an important event to inherit the Chinese civilization and unite the Chinese people. The sacrificial activities can be roughly divided into two forms: official(or public) offerings and folk offerings. Folk offerings are generally held around Tomb-sweeping Day and the Double Ninth Festival.

## Northern Shaanxi Tao Tsing

Performance Place: "Yan 'an Nursery School" and other performances in Yan 'an City

Tao Tsing in Northern Shaanxi is a traditional folk art form in northern Shaanxi. It originated from the chanting of sutras by Taoists in the Tang Dynasty and developed in the Ming and Qing Dynasties. It has a history of more than 1,000 years. The singing uses the northern Shaanxi dialect, and the dominant folk singing method, with a very unique style. The traditional repertoire mainly tells Taoist stories, historical stories and living stories, with representative pieces such as "One Hundred Thousand Coins", "Havoc in the Library" and "Peony Pavilion". Northern Shaanxi Tao Tsing rooted in the fertile soil of folk life, and is full of northern Shaanxi people's daily feelings and artistic wisdom.



▲ Mizhi Jiang' s Manor



▲ Suide Suona

## 7 Suimi Suona Horn

Performance place: Northern Shaanxi Folk Song Museum of Yulin City, Ancient City of Mingzhou in Suide County, Yulin City

Suimi Suona Horn is one of the types of folk wind and drum music, mainly spread in Suide County, Mizhi County and other places in northern Shaanxi, whose origin can be traced back to the Ming Dynasty. The music of it mainly comes from folk songs, ditties, opera music and religious music. The suona is an indispensable instrument in bands of blowing and beating, with loud volume and bright tone. In ancient times, in addition to playing military music, it was also used for drama, song and dance accompaniment. In the daily life of the folk, it is mostly used for festivals, weddings, funerals and other ceremonies.

## 7 Ziyang Folk Songs

Performance Place: He's Courtyard, Ziyang County, Ankang City Ziyang Tea Garden

Ziyang Folk Songs are a kind of folk songs with strong local color in southern Shaanxi Province. It is popular in Ziyang County, Ankang City, Shaanxi Province, "the hometown of folk songs". The lyrics are humorous and melodic, and the forms include Haozi, mountain folk songs and ditty. The representative songs are Husband Singing Folk Songs in the Facing Door, Singing Mountain Folk Songs and Washing Clothes, etc.



▲ Suona





▲ The Big Wild Goose Pagoda

# Special Recommendations

Known as the "Natural Museum of History", Shaanxi is rich in cultural relics and has high historical value. In addition to the relics on the world heritage list and the tentative list, Shaanxi has many cultural relics with the potential to be declared as world heritage sites, which are also highly attractive for tourism.

**Huangdi Mausoleum**

**Zhouyuan site**

**Ancient Shu Roads of Qin**

**Qin Capital City and mausoleum site**

**Straight Road of Qin**

**Buddhist Ancestral Temple**

**Zhengguo Canal, Hanzhong Three Weirs,  
and Longshou Canal**

**Jiaxian ancient date garden**



▲ Huangdi Mausoleum

# Huangdi Mausoleum



National 5A-rated Tourist Attraction  
Important Heritage Site under State Protection

- 📍 No. 179, Dongguan, Huangling County, Yan'an City
- ☎ 0911-5212742
- 💰 CNY 75 in peak season, CNY 50 in off-season
- 🕒 07:30-18:30

The Huangdi Mausoleum, namely the tomb of Huangdi Xuanyuan, is located in the Qiao Mountain, Huangling County, Yan'an City, Shaanxi Province.

Huangdi lived in the Neolithic Age more than

five thousand years ago. He unified the world, laid the foundation of China, and was respected by later generations as the ancestor of the Chinese humans. Five thousand years of civilization of the Chinese nation, starts from the Huangdi period. In 1961, the Huangdi Mausoleum was announced by the State Council as one of the first batch of important heritage sites under state protection, with the first category of ancient tombs. In 2006, the sacrificial ceremony was added to the national intangible cultural heritage list. In 2014, the Mausoleum of the Huangdi started the plan of applying for the World Cultural Heritage.

Today the Huangdi Mausoleum Scenic Area is mainly composed of the Xuanyuan Temple and Huangdi Mausoleum. The Xuanyuan Temple is at the foot of the Qiao Mountain, the Huangdi Mausoleum at the top of the Qiao Mountain. Here is China's oldest, largest and best preserved ancient cypress group. "Huang Emperor's Hand-planted Cypress" dating back more than 5,000 years, which is said to have been planted by the Huangdi himself, is one of the oldest cypress trees in the world.





▲ Zhouyuan site

## Zhouyuan site ↗

Important Heritage Site under State Protection

### 💡 Tips: ~~~~~

The Zhouyuan Museum is about 10 km from the Famen Temple (a Buddhist holy land and national 5A tourist attraction). You can plan a one-day trip.

The site of Zhouyuan, located in the Fufeng County and Qishan County of Baoji City, Shaanxi Province today, is large ancient ruins, 70 km long from east to west and about 20 km wide from north to south. A large number of bronze wares, oracle bones, noble mausoleums and building bases have been excavated here, which proves that this is the birthplace of the Zhou culture and the settlement of Zhou people from the 11th century BC to the 8th century BC. It was named as "the Top Ten New Archaeological Discoveries in China in 2015".

The The Zhouyuan Museum, built on the basis of the Zhouyuan site, has a collection of more than 10,000 pieces of precious cultural relics unearthed from the Zhouyuan site, showing and reproducing the history and culture of the Western Zhou Dynasty. Among them, the oracle bone inscriptions, as small as corn, are the early miniature carvings of China, and hundreds of bronze wares of the Western Zhou Dynasty, such as the Qiang Basin and Folded Horn Wine Vessel, are of wonderful workmanship.

### ↗ Zhouyuan Museum

📍 Zhaochen Village, Famen Town, Fufeng County, Baoji

☎ 0917-52511193

💰 Free

🕒 09:00-17:00



### Tips:

Visitors can see the ruins of the Qin-Shu Ancient Road in Shimou Plank Road in Hanzhong City, Huayang Ancient Town in Yang County, Guanghuojie Town in Ningqian County, Heihe National Forest Park and other places.

## Qin-Shu Ancient Road



The Qin-Shu Ancient Road refers to several ancient roads from Chang'an to Sichuan, crossing the rugged Qinling Mountains. The earliest road was dug more than 2,000 years ago, with a total length of about 4,000 km. It is the most dangerous and complex traffic road with the earliest construction time, the oldest existence, and the longest use time in ancient China. More than ten ancient roads, such as Baoxi Road, Chencang Road, Tangluo Road, Ziwu Road, Lizhi Road, Jinniu Road and Micang Road, have weaved a huge road network between the Qinling Mountains and the Ba Mountain.

There are more than 300 cultural relics distributed along the Qin-Shu Ancient Road in Shaanxi Province. These relics of buildings, bridges, passes, grottoes, stone carvings, ancient villages and walled castles can completely outline the direction of it. At present, Shaanxi, Sichuan and other places are jointly applying for the Qin-Shu Ancient Road as world heritage.



▲ Huayang Ancient Town near the Tangluo Straight Road



▲ The site of Front Hall in Epang Palace

## Qin Capital City and the Mausoleum Sites

Important Heritage Sites under State Protection

The Qin Capital City and mausoleum sites, including the Qin Yong City site, the Qin Xianyang site, **the Epang Palace site and the Eastern Mausoleum of the Qin Dynasty, are all important heritage sites under state protection.**

The Qin Yong City site is the ruins of the former capital of the pre-Qin period. Yong City, as the capital of Qin in the Spring and Autumn Period, is an important milestone in the history of the development of the state of Qin. Today, the Yong City site consists of the city site, the Cemetery of the kings of Qin, the cemetery of Qin people and the suburban palace area.

① Shilian Road, Fengxiang District, Baoji City

The site of Xianyang City of Qin is the ruins of the capital of Qin Dynasty, and "Xianyang" is also the best known capital of Qin. The present site of Xianyang City of the Qin Dynasty is divided into northern and southern areas by the Weihe River. The huge palaces, government offices, mausoleums and burial areas are all located in the northern part.

② South Section of Jingwei Avenue, Weicheng District, Xianyang City

The Epang Palace, along with the Great Wall, Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor and Qin Straight, is called "the four major projects of Qin Shi Huang". The main part is the front hall of Epang Palace. The latest archaeological findings show that the Epang Palace was not completely built, and the existing Front Hall ruins are a large rammed earth platform.

③ Fengdong Avenue, Weiyang District, Xi'an

Located at the western foot of the Li Mountains of Lintong, the Eastern Mausoleum of the Qin Dynasty has been found to contain the grandfather, grandmother, father and mother of the First Qin Emperor, Qin Shi Huang.

④ Hanyu Village, Xiekou Street, Lintong District, Xi'an





## Qin Straight

Important Heritage Site under State Protection



**Shimen Mountain National Forest Park**



Xunyi County, Xianyang City



029-34613875



CNY 50



08:00-18:00

Known as the "the prototype of modern expressways", Qin Straight was built in 212 BC. Qin Shi Huang unified the other six states, and to prevent and guard against the northern Xiongnu people, made general Meng Tian lead more than 300,000 soldiers set up a 700 km road, from Shaanxi in the south, to Inner Mongolia in the north. Because of its generally straight direction from south to north, it is called "Straight". After the arrival of the Han Dynasty, Qin Straight was not only used to ensure national security, but also played an important role in promoting trade exchanges, cultural exchanges and ethnic integration.

Xunyi County, Ganquan County and Fu County and other places in Shaanxi have relics of Qin Dynasty. Qin Straight has sites in many places of China, among which the one closest to Xianyang City is in Shimen Mountain National Forest Park where archeologists have found several architectural ruins of the Qin and Han Dynasties and beacon ruins. You can visit the Qin Straight Cultural Garden, Qin Straight Museum, Shimen Impregnable Pass and other scenic spots in the scenic area which is also a good place to escape the summer heat and enjoy the autumn scenery.



▲ Shimen Mountain National Forest Park



## Zhengguo Canal, Hanzhong Three Weirs, and Longshou Canal

▲ Zhengguo canal

The “World Heritage Irrigation Structures” is a cultural heritage conservation project sponsored by the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage(ICID). Since 2016, the Zhengguo Canal, Hanzhong Three Weirs and Longshou Canal in Shaanxi Province have been listed as world irrigation engineering heritage sites.

The Zhengguo Canal Irrigation System is the earliest large-scale water conservancy project in the Guanzhong area. At the end of the Warring States Period, the state of Han sent Zheng Guo, an irrigation engineer, to build canals in Qin for enlarging the cost of the manpower and money of the state of Qin and weakening its troops. However, it unexpectedly made this area a fertile field, which promoted the strength of Qin and laid a foundation for Qin to unify China later. In 2016, the Zhengguo Canal Irrigation System became the first world heritage irrigation structures in Shaanxi Province. Today, the Zhengguo Canal Irrigation System is also a good scenic place to visit.

📍 Wangqiao Town, Jingyang County, Xianyang

📞 029-36228891

💰 CNY 100

🕒 08:30-18:00

The “Hanzhong Three Weirs”, namely the Sunvo Weir, Wumen Weir and Yangtian Weir in Hanzhong City, Shaanxi Province, were built in the Western Han Dynasty and have a history of more than 2,000 years. After repairs and protection by the successive dynasties, they are still playing a role in irrigation, flood control, drought resistance and so on.

### ➤ Shanhe weir

📍 Hedongdian Town, Hantai District, Hanzhong City

### ➤ Wumen weir

📍 Hedongdian Town, Hantai District, Hanzhong City

### ➤ Yang Tian Dam

📍 Baoshan Town, Chenggu County, Hanzhong City

The Longshou Canal is the first underground canal in Chinese history. It was built during the Western Han Dynasty and got its name because some dinosaur fossils were excavated during construction(“Dinosaur” is kong long in Chinese). The “wells connecting with canals” pioneered by the Longshou Canal is a milestone in the history of water conservancy science and technology in the world. After more than 2,000 years, the Longshou Canal has developed into a modern Luohui Canal irrigation district, irrigating more than 700,000 mu of farmland and nourishing many famous agricultural products of Chinese National Geography, such as Chengcheng Cherry, Pucheng Pear and Dali Winter Jubube.

📍 Pucheng County, Dali County, Weinan



▲ The Caotang Temple

## Buddhist Ancestral Temple



Buddhist Ancestral Temples refer to the temples where the ancestral masters of a Buddhist sects lived, preached doctrine or were buried. In the Sui and Tang Dynasties, eight major schools of Chinese Buddhism were formed, namely, the Three-treatise Sect, the Faxiang Sect, the Tiantai Sect, the Hua-yen Sect, the Zen Sect, the Pure Land Sect, the Vinaya Sect and the Vajrayana School. In addition to the Zen ancestral temple Shaolin Temple and Tiantai ancestral temple Guoqing Temple, the rest of the Buddhist ancestral temples are in Shaanxi.

**The Caotang Temple**(important heritage site under state protection) is the ancestral temple of the Three-treatise Sect, China's first government-run translation field of Buddhist scriptures, with a history of more than 1600 years, where Master Kumarajiva translated Buddhist scriptures. The stupa of Kumarajiva in the temple is a national treasure.

📍 CaoTangsi East Road, Zhaoyi District, Xi'an City

☎ 029-84953437

¥ CNY30





**The Huayan Temple**(important heritage site under state protection) is the ancestral temple of the Hua-yen Sect, one of the eight major temples in the Fan Chuan Plain in the Tang Dynasty. The temple preserved the stupas of the founders of the sect, Master Dushun and Master Chengguan, which have a history of thousands of years.

📍 Shaoliangyuan, Weiqu Street, Chang'an District, Xi'an

☎ 029-85990014

🆓 Free

**The Xiangji Temple**(important heritage site under state protection) is the ancestral temple of the Pure Land Sect, where Emperor Gaozong of the Tang Dynasty Li Zhi was here for his respect for Buddha. The Pure Land Sect was introduced into Japan in the 8th century, and the Xiangji Temple is a testament to the friendly exchange of religious culture between China and Japan.

📍 Xiangji Temple Village, Guodu Town, Chang'an District, Xi'an City

☎ 029-85973357

🆓 Free

**The Daxingshan Temple**(important heritage site under state protection) is the ancestral temple of the Vajrayana School, the royal monastery in the Sui and Tang Dynasties, and one of the three major sutra translation fields in Chang'an. With a history of more than 1700 years, the Daxingshan Temple is one of the oldest Buddhist temples in Shaanxi Province.

📍 No.55, Xingshan Temple West Street, Yanta District, Xi'an

☎ 029-85252721

🆓 Free

**The Jingye Temple**is the ancestral temple of the Vinaya Sect, built at the end of the Sui Dynasty. The stupa of Master Daoxuan, the founder of the sect, is on the peak outside the temple. The three characters on the temple gate, "Jing Ye Si"(净业寺), were written by Nan Huaijin, the master of Sinology. The character "净" has one more stroke than the normally used character "净", the former of which is a Buddhist term.

📍 Fengyukou, Luan Town, Chang'an District, Xi'an City

☎ 029-85921177

🆓 Free



▲ Daxingshan Temple



The Jiaxian Ancient Date Garden in Jiaxian County is an agricultural cultural system characterized by the characteristic landscape of the Loess Plateau and the cultivation of red date. It has been recognized by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as globally important agricultural cultural heritage.

With a history of more than 3,000 years of date cultivation, Jiaxian County of Shaanxi Province, is known as "China's Famous Hometown of Red Date". The core area of the heritage site is located in Nihegou Village, Jiaxian County, where there is the world's best preserved and largest date group with a total area of 36 mu and more than 1,100 ancient date trees. There are also two ancient date trees with a trunk circumference of more than 3 meters, which are estimated by experts to be more than 1,400 years old. They are deeply rooted and rich in fruits, and are known as the "Kings of Date Trees". On the Loess Plateau with sparse vegetation, the date wood plays the role of windbreak and sand stabilization, water and soil conservation, and water source protection.

Jiaxian County has a profound cultural history of red dates. Every year, the local people worship the "God of Date" and pray for a good harvest of red dates in Lunar January. At every festival and at New Year, they make date cakes, date buns and other traditional food to celebrate.

## Globally Important Agricultural Heritage:



Jiaxian Ancient Date Garden



**Jiaxian Ancient Date Garden**



Nihegou Village, Zhujiawa Town,  
Jiaxian County, Yulin City



Free



▲ Thousand-Year-Old Date Tree King



The maps used in this book are based on the standard map with the review number Shaanxi S(2021)023 downloaded from the website of Shaanxi Bureau of Surveying, Mapping and Geographic Information, and the base map are not modified.