

Beijing Great Wall Int'l Travel Agency

Tel:(+86)10-8446 6033 / 8446 6213 / 8446 6032 ext .801,802 ,803 Fax:(+86)10-8446 6212

(BW-005) Beijing-Beidaihe-Laoting-Beidaihe-Beijing (16 Days)



Beidaihe, won the world recognition as a bird watching heaven during the 1999 Sky & Ocean International Bird Watching Race, is the best place for bird watching in East Asia, and is one of the 4 best holy paradises all over the world, attracts many both Chinese and foreign birders each year, most birding fans from UK, France, USA, Germany, Japan, Australia, Norway, Danmark, Finland, Sweden and etc.

Beidaihe is one of those places that any birder simply has to visit. It has become

famous in spring for the excellent passage of birds, notably passerine but also raptors.

About 9000 species of birds in the world, and more than 1223 species in China, but about 410 species of birds have been recorded at Beidaihe, and in Spring about more than 200 species could be seen, some of them are rarest such as: *Larus relictus* (relic gull, 850 birds recorded in Beidaihe, and recorded only 5000 world wide), *Larus saundersi* (Saunders's Gull, not more than 4000 birds survival over the world, most in China coast, and Luanhe--Luan river mouth in Beidaihe is one of their 3 breeding places); *Grus japonensis* (Red-crowned Crane); Siberian crane, White stork, Pied harrier, Asian dowitcher, Nordmann's greenshank

And a large group of *Circus melanoleucos* (Pied Harrier) with 14524 members had been ever watched and recorded in 1986; a large group of *Ciconia boyciana* (Oriental White Stork) with 2279 members had been ever watched and recorded; *Grus leucogeranus* (Siberian white crane); even some water birds from Australia had been seen and recorded.

Every year, Birding Race will be held in May in Beidaihe, attracts many Chinese and foreign birding fans to watch birds.

Day 1/Arrive in Beijing

Arrive in Beijing, the capital of China. Pick up from the airport. Pay a visit to **Tian'anmen Square**, the largest urban square in the world. Tian'anmen was built in 1417 and served as the entrance gate to the Imperial Palace. Move on to visit the Imperial Palace, well-known as **Forbidden City** which is the large scale construction of the palace extended from 1406 to 1420. It was the imperial palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties. 24 emperors lived and ruled China from here. (D)

Day 2/Beijing

Visit the enchanting **Summer Palace** included birding, the largest and best-preserved imperial

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garden in China. As a masterpiece of Chinese landscape garden design, it integrates the natural landscape of hills and open water with manmade features such as pavilions, halls, palaces, temples and bridges into a harmonious and aesthetically exceptional whole. (B,L,D)

You can see more than 20 kinds of birds in Summer Palace, such as Tits, Woodpeckers, Nuthatch, Blue Magpies, Smew, Goosander, Goldeneye, included the woodland species and waterbird species. Summer Palace is home to more birds than any other park in Beijing, which is an expansive park consisting of the extensive Kunming Lake and a few attached smaller ponds, surrounding the lake are patches of woodland and open grassland.

Day 3/Beijing-Beidaihe

Ride a train to Beidaihe, pick up from the railway station. Bird watching on the beach and Xinkai River port. (B,L, D)

With the Clamping of Bohai Sea Bay Yanshan Mountain, Beidaihe and surrounding coastal plain take shape of a narrow channel. The migratory birds arrive here along the coastline with a large numbers flocks. Xinkaihe River, Daihe River, Yanghe River, Luanhe Rivers and others form beach, lagoon and the rivers flowing slowing at the estuary, which provide the habitat and food for the birds.



Places for birding: River mouth (such as Daihe river, Yanghe river, Dapuhe river), Chitushan hill, Geziwo (Pigeon nest), Lianfengshan hill, Qilihai, Happy Island, Shanhaiguan pass, Laoling (old summit).

Day 4/Beidaihe

Bird watching in Lianfeng Mountain and Yanghe River Mouth. (B,L,D)

Day 5/Beidaihe

Bird watching in Beidaihe. (B,L,D)

Day 6/ Beidaihe

Bird watching in Beidaihe. (B,L,D)

Day 7/Shanhaiguan

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Bird watching on the Jiaoshan Great Wall of Shanhaiguan Pass. (B,L,D)

Jiaoshan Great Wall: About three kilometers north to Shanhaiguan Pass, locates the 519-meters peak of Jiaoshan which is flat and wide. Though relatively diminutive size, this is the first actual mountain where the Great Wall passes heading west, so it is known as “the First Mountain of the Great Wall”.

Day 8/Beidaihe-Laoting

Drive to Laoting, and watch birds on the way. (B,L,D)

Day 9/Laoting

Bird watching in Xiangyundao Forest. Take 9:00 ferry to Happy Island for birding. 17:00 ferry back to the hotel. (B,L,D)

Xiangyundao Forest is located along the southeast coast of Laoting, covering an area of 36,000 mu. This ecological forest was entitled as National Forest Park in 1993. Besides the historic relics of Xiangyun Temple, Bandao Well, and watching tower, here, there are lush forest and many birds. Xiangyundao Forest is one of the international birding bases.

Happy Island, original named “Shijiu Tuo Island” or “Bodhi Island” by local people, but named “Happy Island” by Martin Williams who almost the founder of China birding, “Kuaile Dao” in Chinese, it is almost a pure paradise solely for birds and with little disturbance from tourists, only about 5 minutes ride on a small speedboat, although a tiny island, about 2kms long and 1kms wide, but it play important role that host to numerous migrating birds, mainly shuttling between Siberia and South China. The number species of birds in Happy Island almost the same as in Beidaihe due to its proximity to Beidaihe and their similar geographical conditions.

There are about 408 species of birds. 29 of them are resident, 379 of them are migrant birds.

Day10/Laoting

Bird watching in Xiangyundao Forest. (B,L,D)

Day11/Laoting

Bird watching in Xiangyundao Forest in the morning. Take 9:00 ferry to Happy Island for birding. 17:00 ferry back to the hotel. (B,L,D)

Day12/Laoting-Beidaihe

Bird watching in Xiangyundao Forest in the morning. Drive back to Beidaihe in the afternoon. (B,L,D)

Day13/Beidaihe

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Bird watching in Beidaihe. (B,L,D)

Day14/Beidaihe

Bird watching in Beidaihe. (B,L,D)

Day15/Beidaihe-Beijing

Bird watching in Beidaihe in the morning. Take an afternoon train back to Beijing. Transfer to the hotel on arrival. (B,L,D)

Day16/Depart from Beijing

Transfer to the airport. TOUR ENDS! (B)