

[Tour code: GW-YR-002] Zhengzhou, Anyang, Kaifeng, Luoyang, Xi'an, Hukou Waterfall (11 days)

Day01 Arrive in Zhengzhou

Arrive in Zhengzhou, one of China's earliest cities and suited south of Yellow River. Be picked up at the airport and transferred to the hotel. (D)



Day02 Zhengzhou-Anyang

Drive to Anyang, suited at the northern tip of Henan province. Anyang is an ancient city with a history of over 3000 years and used to be one of the Seven Ancient Capitals. You will visit **Shang Dynasty Ruins (Yinxu)** which is the site of the capital of the Shang (or Yin) Dynasty around the fourteenth century B.C. Large numbers of bronze ware, tools and articles for production and daily use have been found here. A rectangular pot 1.33 meters high and weighing 875 kilograms, with beautiful stylized dragon and legendary animal patterns inscribed on its four sides, is a rare bronze object in the world. Then, pay a visit to **Wenfeng Pagoda**, built in 925 A.D. and unusually shaped, it gets larger towards the top, ending with a dagoba-shaped peak atop a flat roof.

(B-L-D)

Day03 Anyang-Kaifeng-Zhengzhou

After breakfast, depart to Kaifeng, known as one of the six major centers of ancient Chinese civilization. You will visit **Iron Pagoda** of the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127), **Dragon Pavilion** – site of imperial palace of the Song and Jin dynasties and the 1400-year-old **Xiangguo Temple** which is one of the most famous Buddhist temples in China. Also on view in **Kaifeng** are ruins of the Shang Dynasty, an important part of human cultural and historic heritage. Then, drive back to Zhengzhou. (B-L-D)

Day04 Zhengzhou-Luoyang

Today's highlight is to visit **Yellow River Scenic Area** which is the most ideal place to experience the culture of the Yellow River which is well-known as "the Cradle of China". Then, head for Luoyang, the capital of nine dynasties since the time of the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770-221 B.C.). Pay a visit to **Luoyang Folk Art Museum**. (B-L-D)

Day05 Luoyang

Whole day's excursion is to visit the **Shaolin Temple**, which is located at the foot of Mt. Songshan – the central of the five sacred mountains in China. The temple was founded in 527 A.D. by a monk, Bodhidharma. He developed a form of physical movement which is based on the natural motions of animals, hence the origin of Shaolin Kung-fu. The main scenic spots are **Permanent courtyard, the Forest of Stupas, the First Founder's Hall, the Second Founder's Hall** and **Dharma Cave**, etc. (B-L-D)



Day06 Luoyang-Xi'an

This morning, you will visit **Longmen Grottoes**, built in the year of 494, during the Northern Wei Dynasty. The Longmen Grottoes is one of China's three leading treasures houses of grotto art, with 2,100 grottoes. The largest Buddhist sculpture stands 17.14 meters tall. Then, take a train to Xi'an with soft seat. Be picked up and transferred to the hotel on arrival. (B-L-D)

Day07 Xi'an

Begin the day's activity with an once-in-a-lifetime viewing of the extraordinary 2,200-year-old **Terracotta Warriors** of China's first feudal Emperor, Qin Shihuang. On your way back to the city, stop at a mountain village and meet local residents. After lunch, visit the superb **Shannxi History Museum**, the best of its kind in China. Visit to **Big Wild Goose Pagoda** which was built in 652 A.D. It contains a large volume of Buddhist scriptures which were obtained from India by the eminent monk of Xuanzang. Enjoy a characteristic **dumpling dinner** at a local restaurant. (B-L-D)

Day08 Xi'an-Yichuan

After breakfast, drive to Yichuan and visit **Huangdi Mausoleum** on the way. Huangdi, the initiator of Chinese civilization, was a great tribal leader in the final primitive society of ancient China. Huangdi Mausoleum, memorial mausoleum of legendary Huangdi, is the most important ancient grave site in China. After many



years' development and construction, the mausoleum became not only a mausoleum, but a key point of interest for historical Chinese culture. (B-L-D)

Day09 Yichuan-Xi'an

After breakfast, pay a visit to the **Hukou Waterfall** on the Huanghe River west. When the mighty Yellow River flows through mountains and gorges to Hukou, the billowy water streams narrow suddenly, falling 30 meters (33 yards) into a deep riverbed like a herd of galloping horses, transforming the quiet river into a turbulent one. The thundering sound can be heard from quite a distance. The tremendous mass of water strikes the rocks, creating piles of foam and huge water poles. It is an amazing view with mist all around. The riverbed here is like an enormous teapot absorbing all the rushing water, so the waterfall is named Hukou Waterfalls (Kettle Spout Falls). Then, drive back to Xi'an. (B-L-D)

Day10 Xi'an

Climb the ancient **City Wall** and visit **Forest of Steles Museum** where precious stone carvings and sculptures are kept. You will also visit the **Great Mosque** built primarily in the Ming Dynasty when Chinese architectural elements were synthesized into mosque architecture, and it is the largest and best-preserved one of the early mosques of China. (B-L-D)

Day11 Xi'an-

Be transferred to the airport for departure. (B)