



GWTA17– Peak of Great Wall Challenge Hiking (private)

One-day from Simatai West, Jinshanling to Gubeikou,

PRICE

Group size	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Price/USD each	145	155	160	165	175	190	210	350

For group sizes over 9 please send us an email request to obtain the best possible rate.

Children under age 12 are not allowed to take this tour.

Remember when comparing price, you get what you pay for. We don't earn money by taking you to commissioned shopping stops, a common practice in China, wasting your time. Our guides are carefully selected, highly trained and well-paid to be friendly and patient travel companions. We are not the cheapest, but we are one of the best.

BOOKING: customer@greatwallhiking.com

WHY US?

- Great Wall hiking specialist with western standard service
- No hidden cost; no unscheduled or mandatory shopping stops
- Licensed tour guides and experienced drivers; safe and comfortable vehicles
- Your satisfaction and safety is our priority
- Responsible travel

TRIP NOTES

Trip name: Peak of Great Wall Challenge Hiking: One-day from Simatai West, Jinshanling to Gubeikou (private)

Trip code: GWTA17

Trip length: 1 day

Hiking route: Simatai West, Jinshanling and Gubeikou

Meeting point & time: your hotel lobby at 07:00

Finishing point & time: your hotel lobby at 20:00-21:00 depending on traffic

Hiking duration: 7 - 7.5 hours

Hiking distance: 14 km

Best time to go: April/May/September/October, it's very hot (30-35 C) in June/July/August

Physical rating: ★★★★★ **Strenuous**

Departure: your selected date, start and finish in Beijing, March to November

Highlights:

- *Wild Great Wall at Simatai West & Gubeikou
- *Partially restored Great Wall at Jinshanling
- *Stunning photo opportunity of the Great Wall
- *Countryside-style lunch at local farmer's house
- *Challenging hiking route



Included:

- air-con vehicle with experienced driver
- personal expert English-speaking hiking tour guide
- entrance fees for all sections of the Great Wall
- unlimited bottled water; snacks; lunch at local farmer's house
- a certificate of completion for hiking on the Great Wall of China

Not included:

- travel insurance
- cable car, chairlift or any other additional local facilities
- personal expenses
- tipping of hiking guide/driver recommended on good service on a 2:1 ratio separately

What to take:

comfortable **hiking boots**, sunscreen, sun-glasses, lip balm, cap, day pack

Notes:

- There is no toilet along the path on the Wall. There are toilets at the entrance of Simatai West & Gubeikou. Please prepare before hiking and always carry toilet paper by yourself.
- Please don't make any appointment after the trip as the return is quite late at night.
- You will be followed by local farmers at Jinshanling. The farmers will give you help along the way, as a reward they will sell some souvenirs. If you don't like this, you have to say NO firmly at the beginning (MAYBE LATER does not work in Chinese culture) or just ignore them and not speak a word with them; otherwise they can be persistent and follow you all the way on the Wall.
- Unlimited bottled waters are stored in our car/van today, and you need a day pack to carry them.
- We will bring trekking poles in our car/van and please tell your guide if you need one.
- It's recommended to prepare some snacks before your departure from Beijing if you don't like snickers.
- Travel insurance is optional and is the sole responsibility of travellers. It is encouraged to have coverage of injury or accident.
- As responsible travellers, we "take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprint".

DETAILED ITINERARY

If you want to challenge yourself and try a tough challenging hiking in one day, this would be the perfect one! Both Jinshanling and Gubeikou are the most photogenic sections of the Great Wall near Beijing. The Wall snakes from east west to along the Yanshan Mountain range and disappears in far distance. There are many ups and downs, as well as some big and steep steps. You have to be prepared for this lifetime adventure!

Pick you up at your Beijing hotel at 7am and drive 2.5 hours to Simatai West. A 40-minute walking up will lead you to East-Five-Eye watchtower at Simatai West. You may take a few breaths before reaching the Wall, and will be rewarded by the breathtaking panoramic view of this amazing human constructions. Once standing on the top of the Wall, you could see Simatai, Jinshanling and Gubeikou in a clear day, what a spectacular view! We will walk mainly on brick steps at Jinshanling section and some of them are big. This section of the Wall is very popular among keen photographers for its intact watchtowers, beacon towers and other solid constructions. The steps rise up and down constantly and scenery is changing at every watchtower. Take a short break and some photos here, we will then walk westward to Jinshanling. We will get through Shalingkou and Zhuanduokou and then off the Wall at West-Five-Eye watchtower for 2.5 hours. A half-hour walking downhill will come to a farmer's house in the valley, where we will have a basic and light lunch due to limited availability of food materials in this isolated location. As descendant of Wall soldiers, Mr. Chow's family has lived here for centuries and now most of his neighbours had moved out of the valley for a better life. He enjoyed the peaceful life here and established a simple guesthouse for travelers. We will climb up the mountain again after lunch break at Chow's house and walk on hilly path and then farmer field for 1.5 hours.



Coming back to the Wall again at 24-Eye Watchtower at Gubeikou, we could see the panoramic view of the Crouching Tiger Hill in a distance if weather permits. The rest of 1.5 hours' walking on the Dragon Hill is relatively flat and easier. Our driver is waiting for us at the end of Gubeikou. We will drive 2.5 hours back to our hotel in Beijing.

Jinshanling & Gubeikou Great Wall

Jinshanling is the name given to the wall situated on the Jinshan Mountains. Its earliest section was built in the 6th Century but most of what you see now also dates from the Ming Dynasty. The walkway along the top is paved with square bricks providing a level surface wide enough to construct batteries. Poems and tablet writings can be found here, left from the time General Qi Jiguang directed building of this section of the Great Wall. Barrier walls were built leading to the enemy to protect the towers. Some of the towers were storerooms for food, hay and weapons.

In 1378 (the 11th year of Emperor Hongwu's reign in the Ming Dynasty), General Xu Da ordered this section of the Great Wall rebuilt. Gubeikou has probably seen more battles than any other parts of the Great wall, including some of the most famous in Chinese history. On the southern slope of Gubeikou stands a temple dedicated to Yang Ye, a famous Great Wall garrison general of the Song Dynasty. this is one of the oldest temples dedicated to this general in China. In WWII there's fierce fighting between Chinese and Japanese armies for weeks, and a cemetery for some 300 Chinese soldiers is preserved close to the Wall.

PAYMENT

We accept credit card payment via Paypal which is safe and fast. **Non-refundable deposit** is required via Paypal at the time of booking, remaining payment can be paid via Paypal as well before leaving home. If you want to pay the outstanding balance upon arrival, then only cash payment (either USD or CNY) is accepted. Please note that Paypal may not work **when you are already in China** due to safety concerns.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Days before departure	Charge applicable
Not less than 14 days	Loss of deposit
Between 7 and 13 days	Loss of 50% of the total booking cost or loss of deposit; whichever is the greater
6 days or less	Loss of total booking cost

Google Earth Info:

Note: the actual hiking distance is longer than the Earth info.

Distance: 12.9 km
Elev Gain: 676 m
Elev Loss: -810m
Max Slope: 32.4%, -33.0%
Avg Slope: 10.2%,-10.9%



Advertisement

Mountain Escape Yangshuo, a hidden retreat in peaceful Yulong village, plan an exotic holiday and enjoy the breathtaking natural beauty of Yangshuo and its surrounding area.

Gary, founder at Great Wall Hiking, starts his adventure of a boutique accommodation project in South China's Yangshuo, well-known for its karst mountains and rivers landscape. His family is welcoming friends all over the world in the village. Staying is opened by **Feb 6, 2017**.



Get **30%** discount with promo code **GWH** when booking at www.mountainscapeyangshuo.com.

