



## GW125 - Small Group Iconic Great Wall Hiking

### 2-day at Jinshanling & Gubeikou escorted by local farmer guide

#### PRICE

USD 268 per adult (13+)

Group size over 8 please contact us for a better rate. Private groups can be customised upon request.

**Departures:** selected dates from April to October

**BOOKING:** [customer@greatwallhiking.com](mailto:customer@greatwallhiking.com)

#### TRIP NOTES

**Trip name:** Small Group Iconic Great Wall Hiking at Jinshanling & Gubeikou

**Trip code:** GW125

**Trip length:** 2 days

**Hiking route:** Jinshanling & Gubeikou

**Meeting time:** 08:00 am; the traffic in Beijing is very busy in morning rush hours, please make your own way at least 15 minutes earlier; it's difficult to wait for your late arrival as a group tour

**Meeting point:** Exit C, Dongzhimen Station, Subway Line 2&13. 地铁东直门站C出口

**Meeting directions:** Our driver will hold a blue Great Wall Hiking logo at Exit C.

**Finishing time:** 17:00-18:00 depending on the traffic on Day 2

**Finishing point:** Exit C, Dongzhimen Station, Subway Line 2&13. 地铁东直门站C出口

**Hiking duration:** 3 hours on Day 1, 5 hours on Day 2

**Hiking distance:** 6 km on Day 1, 9 km on Day 2

**Physical rating:** ★★★☆☆ **Moderate**

#### Highlights:

- \*Partially restored Great Wall at Jinshanling
- \*Wild and original Great Wall at Gubeikou
- \*Stunning photo opportunity of the Great Wall
- \*Learn dumpling-making with local farmer host
- \*Guaranteed departure with even one participant
- \*No hidden cost; no unscheduled or mandatory shopping stops

#### Included:

- return air-con & comfortable vehicle from Beijing
- entrance tickets of the Great Wall at Jinshanling & Gubeikou
- twin-shared comfortable accommodation at local farmer's guesthouse
- group local farmer guide on site, limited English-speaking
- 1 breakfast, 2 lunches, 1 dinner; bottled waters on hiking

#### Not included:

- travel insurance
- personal expenses



- tipping to local farmer guide/driver recommended on good service on a 2:1 ratio separately (CNY100: 50 per day per group can be a guideline)

### **What to take:**

comfortable shoes or boots, sunscreen, sun-glasses, lip balm, cap, day pack

## **DETAILED ITINERARY**

Escape from crowds and enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime adventure experience with a local farmer guide on the Great Wall!

### **Day 1 Beijing, Jinshanling East to Jinshanling main gate, 3hours/6km**

Meet you up by our driver at 8am and then drive to Jinshanling East (Simatai West). You will start the hiking around 10:30 am, and it will take about 3 hours to complete the hiking. A lunch at a local farmer's restaurant will be organized after the hiking. Our driver will take you to Gubeikou village for overnight.

A 40-minute steps walking up will lead you to East-Five-Eye watchtower at Jinshanling East (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. Take a short break and some photos here, we will then walk westward to Jinshanling. We will get off the wall at Shalingkou at Jinshanling, alternatively you can walk another 30 minutes if you feel energetic and then get off the wall at Zhuanduokou . The unrestored wall, the watch towers, the beacon towers snake on the mountain from east to west. You will have chance to meet local farmer friends, try local home-made food and learn local community development. It is the best place for keen photographers along the wall.

This section offers arguably the finest hiking anywhere on the Great Wall. It is extremely photogenic, with over 30 watch-towers, and steep gradients that give constantly changing perspectives and wide, open views. There is fascinating variety in the watchtowers here. Some have two storeys, others three. Some have flat roofs, others rounded and others again are pitched with upturned eaves. This section of the wall is ruined, preserved and original. On a clear day, it is difficult to fail to take good photographs here.

The driver will take you to Gubeikou village (20 minutes driving) after the late lunch. You're free to explore the village in the afternoon. You will learn dumplings-making instructed by the host in late afternoon. The dinner is served with dumplings and other local produces together.

Meals: lunch/dinner with dumplings

Accommodation: local farmer's guesthouse with private bathroom and shower at Gubeikou village

### **Day 2 Gubeikou to Jinshanling, Beijing, 5hours/9km**

We will start the hiking after breakfast at 08:30 from Coaling Dragon Hill (Panlongshan) at Gubeikou toward Jinshanling. It's wild, original and less-visited. At this time there are usually no other people on the wall, you have the wall to yourself. It's the right time to produce amazing photographs. It will take about 5 hours/9km hiking on the wall.

It takes some 30 minutes walking uphill to the Wall and then another 1.5 hours to break at 24-eye-



tower, the highest point and the picturesque spot where you could have a panoramic view of both Coiling Dragon & Crouching Tiger hills in far distance. We will get off the Wall here to avoid the military area and continue the walking toward Jinshanling. Hiking through the valley and farming trail for 1.5 hours, we will come back to the Wall again at Jinshanling. The hiking will come to end at the spot where we finished the day before, and get out of Jinshanling through the main gate. A lunch will be organised at local restaurant.

Gubeikou, along with the passes at Shanhaiguan in the east and Juyongguan in the west, was a key strategic target in military campaigns since ancient times. Protecting these three passes was considered vital for keeping Beijing safe from the Mongolian nomads. There was also a fierce battle between Chinese and Japanese in the 2nd World War. The vistas of the sinuous Wall snaking its way over the ridges of the Yanshan Mountain are breathtaking.

Our farmer guide will say goodbye to us after lunch. The driver will bring you back to Beijing.

Meals: breakfast/lunch

#### Notes:

- You will hike the Wall from A to B every day and your belongings will go with the vehicle directly to the accommodation, and you need a day pack to carry water, snacks and other stuff.
- Travel insurance is optional and is the sole responsibility of travellers. It is strongly encouraged to have coverage of injury or accident.
- There is no toilet along the path on the Wall. There are toilets at the entrance of Gubeikou and Jinshanling East, otherwise be prepared to commune with nature. Please prepare before hiking and always carry toilet paper by yourself.
- Bottled waters on hiking are stored in our car/van every day.
- We will bring trekking poles in our car/van and please tell your driver if you need one.
- It's recommended to prepare some snacks and energy bars before departure from Beijing.
- As responsible travelers, we "take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprint"

#### 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 cash payment (either USD or CNY) is accepted, as well as Alipay, which works much better than WeChat pay.

#### CANCELLATION POLICY

Days before departure	Charge applicable
not less than 14 days	loss of deposit
between 7 days 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