

Hami, China Eclipse



July 29 - August 3, 2008

Over 2000 years ago, the legendary Silk Road was the passage for the flow of goods between China and the trading centers of Persia, the Middle East and the Roman Empire. Along with merchandise into China, traders brought Islam, Buddhism and cultural traditions that endure today.

TravelQuest International and *Sky & Telescope* invite you to join us as we explore the historical and cultural wonders of China's Dunhuang and to experience the August 1, 2008 total solar eclipse. We will experience the 2-minute eclipse from our specially selected viewing site in the high desert, about a 4-hour drive outside of Hami.

Both first-time China travelers and those returning again will find this eclipse tour an exciting and adventurous journey.

Itinerary Overview

Day 1	Tue, Jul 29	Fly Beijing / Dunhuang
Day 2	Wed, Jul 30	Dunhuang
Day 3	Thu, Jul 31	Bus Dunhuang / Hami
Day 4	Fri, Aug 1	Eclipse Day near Hami
Day 5	Sat, Aug 2	Bus Hami / Dunhuang
Day 6	Sun, Aug 3	Fly Dunhuang / Beijing

Day 1 Tuesday, July 29, 2008
Beijing / Dunhuang

Dinner

Upon arrival at Beijing's Capital International Airport (PEK), you will be greeted and escorted to the connecting flight check-in counter for your flight to Dunhuang, where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The balance of your day and evening free. (Those who arrive in Beijing too late for the connecting flight to Dunhuang will be provided overnight accommodation at a Beijing airport hotel, and fly to Dunhuang to meet up with the group the following morning.)

Day 2 Wed, July 30
Dunhuang

B/L/D

This morning will be free to spend as you wish. After lunch we will visit the famed Mogao Grottoes, one of the greatest repositories of Buddhist art in the world. Many visitors find themselves deeply touched by the hundreds of statues, paintings and reliefs.

After our tour, we will check in to our hotel and relax during the hottest part of the day. In the late afternoon we will take a tour of Min Sha Hill and the Crescent Moon Pool, where we will have the opportunity to ride Bactrian camels over the sand dunes. This evening, we will enjoy dinner and a cultural show at the hotel.

Day 3 Thu, July 31
Dunhuang / Hami

B/L/D

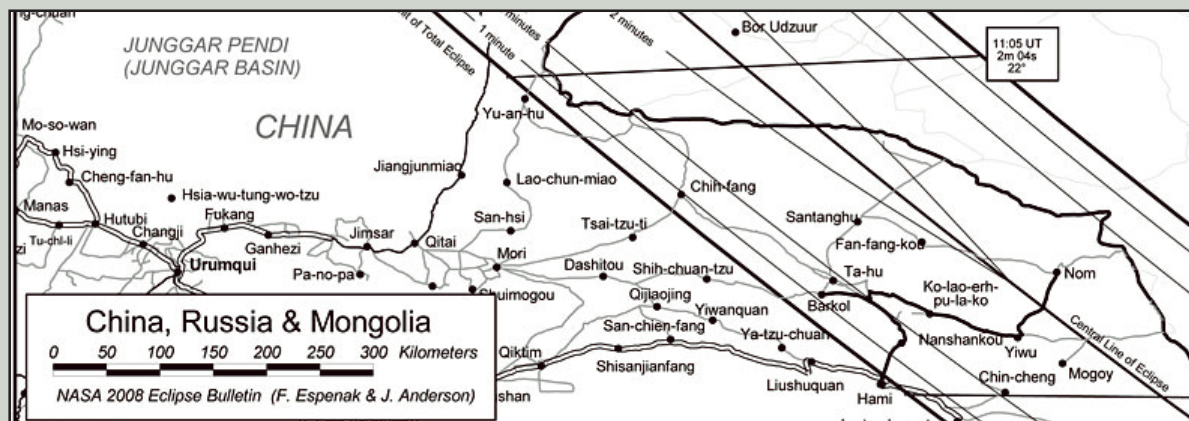
After breakfast we'll board our motorcoach for Hami, driving through desert landscapes and stopping for lunch along the way. Upon arrival in Hami in the afternoon, we will check in to our hotel to relax and prepare for tomorrow's big event. Join us this evening for dinner and eclipse day orientation.

Overnight: Hami Hotel (2 nights)

Day 4 Fri, Aug 1
Eclipse Day in Yiwu

B/L/box-D

Today will be devoted to the eclipse. We'll meet this morning for a final eclipse briefing. Departing by motorcoach for our centerline viewing site located near the town of Yiwu, our 4.5-hour drive will take us past part of the beautiful Ba Li Kun Grassland. After fourth contact, we'll drive back to Hami, arriving at the hotel well after midnight. After fourth contact, we'll drive back to Hami, arriving at the hotel well after midnight.



July 29 - August 3, 2008

Local eclipse contact times (approx).

First contact (eclipse begins):	18:09
Second contact (totality begins):	19:08
Third contact (totality ends):	19:10
Fourth contact (eclipse ends):	20:05
Duration of totality	1m 54s



Hami Eclipse Day Weather

by Eclipse Meteorologist Jay Anderson

The very best weather prospects for the eclipse are found in a small area of northwest China close to the city of Hami – exactly where TravelQuest has chosen to go. The site lies on the edge of a small range of hills, with the vast extent of the Gobi Desert to the east side and the Talikmakan Desert (second only to the Sahara in size) to the west. Its location in the northern part of China spares it from the monsoon flows that plague the larger part of Southeast Asia at this time of year.

In spite of its proximity to these two great deserts, the incidence of sandstorms and blowing dust is very low, especially in the summer months. China's dust storms tend to come with northerly winds and Hami's location on the north side of the deserts puts it on the upwind side of the source region for the dust. Because of its desert environment, cloud cover is very low and precipitation is rare, totaling only 7 mm on average for the month. The estimated probability of seeing the eclipse is nearly 80 percent.

Day 5 Sat, Aug 2 *Hami - Dunhuang*

B/L/D

After breakfast, we'll motorcoach back to Dunhuang. Enjoy free time in the afternoon for shopping and exploring on your own, followed a farewell dinner.

Overnight: Silk Road Dunhuang Hotel

Day 6 Sat, Aug 3 *Dunhuang - Beijing*

B

Today we will transfer from the hotel to the airport for our flight to Beijing for connecting onward flights.

Trip Cost:

\$2890 USD per person, double occupancy. Add \$600 USD for single occupancy (limited availability).

Above pricing is based on a June 2006 exchange rate of 8 RMB (China Yuan Renminbi) to \$1 USD. If at the time of final payment the exchange rate changes in either direction by more than 5% from the current rate, pricing will be adjusted accordingly.

Trip Includes:

- Round trip flights between Beijing and Dunhuang.
- All in-country transportation per the itinerary by private motorcoach Dunhuang/Hami (Eclipse)/Dunhuang.
- All accommodations with private bathroom facilities per the itinerary in best available hotels, breakfast daily, local service charge and tax.
- Arrival and departure transfers for those arriving and departing the dates of the tour.
- Baggage handling at all hotels.
- Services of a bi-lingual Tour Manager who will accompany the group throughout the tour.
- Local English-speaking guides throughout the program.
- All sightseeing and excursions including entrance fees per itinerary.
- All meals, including breakfast daily, lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary.
- Bottled/purified water provided on buses.
- Beverages with lunches/dinners: In cities, your choice of one non-alcoholic drink (soft drink or water) or beer is included.
- All gratuities to Tour Managers, local guides, drivers and train service staff.

Not Included:

- International airfare to and from China. (Flight information will be provided in Fall 2007).
- China visa fees (approximately \$50 USD).
- All items not expressly listed above - including but not limited to: food or beverages not included in group meals, items of a personal nature such as laundry, alcoholic beverages, telephone expense, excess baggage fees, evacuation costs, other items not expressly listed as included.
- Possible additional hotel nights in Beijing that may be needed at the end of the tour because of airline flight connection changes.
- Travel Insurance to cover cancellation, emergency medical, evacuation costs, trip interruption, etc.

Payments and Terms:

A \$400 per person advance payment (payable by MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express or by check drawn on a US bank), along with a completed reservation form, confirms your space. A second advance payment of \$600 per person is due September 25, 2007. The balance is due March 15, 2008.

All advance payments, less a \$250 per person service fee, are refundable until September 25, 2007. From September 26 to March 15, 2008, there will be a \$500 per person cancellation fee. There are no refunds after March 15, 2008. Air cancellation terms are additional.

July 29 - August 3, 2008

Air Travel & Optional Add-On Packages:

International airfare is not included in the cost of this program. In Fall 2007, we will provide you with contact information for an air-ticketing agency familiar with this tour. They will assist with your travel needs at that time, or you may book your flights on your own.

Internal China flights, beginning and ending in Beijing, are included in the cost of this tour. Although these flights connect through Beijing, this tour does not include any time in the city. In Fall 2007, we will offer optional Beijing and Shanghai pre- and post-tour add-on packages, including optional Beijing 2008 Summer Olympic packages.

Weather:

In August, average daytime temperatures are around 100°F/38°C in Silk Road desert locations. (Our private motorcoach is air-conditioned). Nights in the desert cool to about 65°F/18°C. Rain is very unlikely. Keep in mind that these are averages, and extreme conditions could change these temperatures significantly.

Optional trip cancellation/medical insurance is highly recommended. Application informational will be provided with initial invoice. You can also get information on our website at www.tq-international.com and you may sign-up online.



Reservation Form

HAMI, China Eclipse

Please fill out this form (both pages) and mail it to TravelQuest International at; 305 Double D Drive, Prescott, Arizona 86303. You may fax this form to TravelQuest at 928-445-8771. You may also fill out this form online at www.tq-international.com.

Traveler 1 Legal Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Traveler 2 Legal Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

For additional travelers, please provide above information for each person on a separate sheet and attach to this form.

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Evening Phone Number: _____

Day/Work Phone Number: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Emergency Name/Relationship: _____

Emergency Phone Number: _____

Payment Amount: _____ Enter Amount. (\$700 USD per Person)

Payment by Check:

(Drawn on US Funds. Payable to TravelQuest, 305 Double D Dr., Prescott, AZ 86303)

Payment by Credit Card: American Express Master Card Visa Discover

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card Verification Number: _____

Please Sign Here: _____

IMPORTANT: By submitting this form and making this payment your party agrees to our Consumer Disclosure Notice (last page), and the Payment and Cancellation Terms of this tour.

PLEASE CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE

July 29 - August 3, 2008

Where available I/we prefer:

ONE Bed TWO Beds

I am traveling alone and would like to share a double room,
(Roommate not guaranteed):

YES NO

I am traveling alone and would prefer a single room
with single supplement

YES NO

How did you find us? _____



Mail this form to:

**TravelQuest International
305 Double D Drive
Prescott, Arizona 86303**

Fax this form to:

928-445-8771

For further information please visit our website at: www.tq-international.com

Or call us at: 800-830-1998 US and Canada Only **928-445-7754** All other



VERY IMPORTANT CONSUMER DISCLOSURE NOTICE

Please read this notice. It constitutes part of your contract for travel-related services.

Event Horizon LLC, doing business as TravelQuest International, and hereafter referred to as TravelQuest, its agents (collective) and sponsoring organizations act only as an independent contractor for the suppliers of transportation, accommodations, food and other goods and services provided to the participant. All arrangements to transport, accommodate and other services are made upon the express condition that TravelQuest and its agents shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, consequential or incidental damage, injury, or loss to person or property, accident, delay or irregularity of any kind occasioned by reason of any act or omission beyond our control, including without limitation, any act or negligence or breach of contract of any third party, such as an airline, cruise line, train, hotel, restaurant, ground handler, etc., who is to or does supply any goods or services to the tour.

Without limiting the foregoing, TravelQuest and its agents are not responsible for any loss or expenses due to delay or change in schedule, overbooking of accommodations, default of any third parties, sickness, weather, strikes, acts of God, acts of terrorism, war, quarantine, theft, criminal activity or for any other cause beyond our control.

TravelQuest reserves the right to change the itinerary of this tour without prior notice. If the tour is canceled by TravelQuest due to low enrollment, TravelQuest shall incur no liability beyond the refund of all tour participants' payments received. However, if TravelQuest must cancel for reasons beyond its control, including but not limited to weather, disease, strikes, acts of God, acts of terrorism or war, TravelQuest's liability shall be limited to a refund of only those portions of the tour cost TravelQuest is able to recover from suppliers.

TravelQuest may increase the tour cost if there are cost increases. If any tour member chooses not to participate in any included activity or meal, there will be no refund for that unused portion of the tour. If any tour member leaves or is removed from the tour, a refund only for refundable unused services shall be made. This tour may be sold in conjunction with the services of any airline. The passenger tickets in use by the carriers, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the passenger. Carriers are not responsible for any act or omission or events during the time tour participants are not aboard their conveyances.

Any litigation concerning this tour shall be brought in Yavapai County, in the State of Arizona, pursuant to the laws of Arizona. Changes in this Responsibility Clause can be made only in writing and signed by an officer of TravelQuest. Deposits paid by tour participant indicate acceptance of the above terms and conditions.

