

## 2 Days Hiking Tour from Jiankou Section to Simatai West

### Section

#### Basics

**Tour Code:** LCT-BJ-2D - Jiankou-Simatai

**Duration:** 2 days

**Attractions:** Jiankou, Mutianyu, Jinshanling, Simatai West

**Overview:** This hiking trip requires fitness, strength and energy from you. It's specially designed for people who like to challenge themselves and absolutely love nature. An experienced tour guide will be appointed to guide you through the undeveloped parts of the Great Wall and enjoy the wildness of nature. You will also be invited into the home of a local family where you will gain deep insight into their lives by spending a night there. Five to six hours of hiking on Day 1 and 3 hours the next day should satisfy your desire to get close to nature and be rewarded with spectacular views.

#### Highlights

- Untouched sections of the Great Wall at Jiankou & Simatai West
- Restored sections of the Great Wall at Mutianyu & Jinshanling
- Accommodation and food at a local farmer's guesthouse
- Stunning photo opportunity of the Great Wall
- Hotpot lunch

#### Itinerary

Date	Starting Time	Destination
Day 1	08:00 a.m	Beijing - Jiankou - Mutianyu (5 hours, 10 km hiking)
Day 2	08:00 a.m	Jinshanling - Simatai West (3 hours, 5 km hiking) - Beijing

## Day 1 Beijing - Jiankou - Mutianyu (5 hours, 10 km hiking)

We will pick you up at 8 am at your hotel in Beijing and then drive to the Olympic venues for a 20-minute walk. Select your favorite sandwich at Subway for your lunch on the Wall and then drive to Jiankou (2.5 hours). We will start hiking at 11 am. You will hike on both restored and original walls. Shorts are not recommended since you will meander through jungles and bushes. We will drive to Gubeikou in late afternoon and stay at a local farmer's guesthouse.

**Jiankou to Mutianyu** offers a wonderfully satisfying experience of the Wall. It has superb scenery, dense vegetation and many fine watch-towers in an excellent restored section which is about six meters broad. The brickwork is elaborate, with crenelations on both sides and finely curved eaves on some watch-tower roofs. There are decorative gables with



animal statues, and tablets bearing calligraphy above some entrances. The first one hour goes straight up to reach the wall, and then continues along the unrestored towers. The wild Wall to the west is the original Ming Dynasty wall with fine stonework, and there are almost no other people. You will be rewarded when you approach Zhenbeilou Tower, where you will have a breathtaking view of Jiankou section.

There will be a sharp contrast when you arrive at Mutianyu section with the restored wall and towers. We will provide you with water and snacks and you need a day pack to carry these items. We will stay at a traditional local farmer's guesthouse at Gubeikou village which played an important role in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644 AD) in defending the capital. There's a chance to walk around the village and try home-made local farmer's food.



Meals: picnic lunch, dinner

Accommodation: local farmer's guesthouse at Gubeikou village

## Day 2 Jinshanling - Simatai West (3 hours, 5 km hiking) - Beijing

We will drive to **Jinshanling** in 20 minutes after a typical farmer's breakfast, and start the hike at

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8am. This is your opportunity to take amazing photographs. At this time there are usually no other tourists on the wall, you have the wall to yourself. It will take about 3 hours hiking on the wall.

We will get off the wall near the Kylin Tower and then drive back to the city.

This section offers arguably the finest hiking anywhere on the Great Wall. It is extremely photogenic, with over 15 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 wild, ruined, preserved and original. On a clear day, it is difficult to

fail to take good photographs here. We will organize a unique

Hotpot lunch when we return to the city. Hotpot is originally from Sichuan Province and is now popular all over China. You can choose a Plain or Spicy one as you like. This is also a good opportunity

to practice your chopstick skills. We will drop you off at your hotel after lunch and your adventure ends here.



## What's Important:

### What's included:

- Comfortable air-con vehicle with experienced driver
- Fully-escorted personal expert English-speaking hiking tour guide
- Entrance fees for all sections of the Great Wall as listed
- One night twin-shared accommodation at a local farmer's guesthouse
- Unlimited bottled water, snacks, meals as listed in the itinerary
- A certificate of completion for hiking on the Great Wall of China

### What's not included:

Travel insurance  
Cable car, chairlift, toboggan (slideway) or any other additional local facilities  
Personal expenses  
Tipping of hiking guide/driver recommended for good service on a 2:1 ratio separately

What to take: smile and a relaxed enthusiastic attitude.

### Good to know:

1. Please prepare a day pack to carry water, snacks and other items.
2. Travel insurance is optional and is the sole responsibility of travellers. It is strongly encouraged to have coverage for injury or accident.
3. There is no toilet along the path on the Wall. There are toilets at the entrances of Jiankou, Mutianyu, Jinshanling and Simatai West, otherwise be prepared to commune with nature. Please prepare before hiking and always carry toilet paper for yourself.
4. Unlimited bottled water is stored in our car/van every day.
5. We will bring trekking poles in our car/van so please tell your guide if you need one.
6. You will be followed by local farmers when starting the hike on Day 2. The farmers will give you help along the way, as their reward they hope to 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.
7. It's recommended that you prepare some snacks before your departure from Beijing if you don't like snickers.
8. As responsible travelers, we "take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints".  
Customized pick-up & drop-off:
9. If you plan the hike on the first or last day of your visit to Beijing, we can include a customized pick-up or drop-off at the following points (which points???) without additional

cost. It's safe to store your luggage at our car/van.

## FAQ

1. Which sections of Great Wall do we cover in these two days in total?

Re: You will cover 4 sections from Jiankou, Mutianyu, Jinshanling to Simatai West.

2. Is this trip available every day or just on certain days of the year?

Re: It can be risky to hike in winter, so the trip is available between late March and early November.

3. Is it very strenuous?

Re: The trip can be demanding for people who do little exercise, but not that difficult to complete. There would be guide accompanying you all the time and encourage you to go further.

4. Can I take the cable car?

Re: The quote above doesn't include any cable car or toboggan or shuttle bus. If you want to use such transport, please pay on site. Our guide can help you with this.