

Mt. Tianzhu

About 15 kilometers southwest of Ankang, Mt. Tianzhu is high and steep, featuring peaks rising one higher than another, dense forests, varied birds and beautiful flowers. Its main peak like a pillar penetrates into the clouds, hence the name Mt. Tianzhu (Heavenly Pillar).

The White Cloud Temple in the mountain was first constructed in the Tang Dynasty, and was renovated time and again in the following dynasties. At the end of the Qing Dynasty, many pavilions, temples, towers, halls and several hundred of chambers stood in the mountain. Encircled by towering pine and cypress trees, the White Cloud Temple had several halls with carved beams and painted pillars, and housed many Buddhist statues in the past. Later most of the buildings in the temple were destroyed in the war. Now only over 50 chambers built in the Qing Dynasty, and 140 Buddhist statues still exist. Mt. Tianzhu faces the roaring Hanshui River, forming a fascinating picture of a tall mountain and an exquisite river. With good transpor-

tation facilities, Mt. Tianzhu is the best choice for spring outing in Ankang.

Transport: Tourists may go to Ankang from Xi'an by train. Regular buses also go from the Nanmen Railway Station, and Xi'an Bus Station near the Railway Station to Ankang every day.

Baoji

Known as Chencang in ancient times, Baoji, to the west of Xi'an, is surrounded by mountains on the three sides. The city embraces a large number of places of scenic and historic interest, especially the historical sites of the Western Zhou Dynasty, Pre-Qin period and the Three Kingdoms period, such as Shennong Shrine, Lord Zhou Temple, Zhuge Liang Temple, and so on. Taibai Mountain is 3,767 meters above sea level, being the highest spot of Shaanxi Province. Other tourist attractions include Fengxiang East Lake, Tiantai Mountain, Honghe Valley Forest Park, etc.

Mausoleum of Emperor Yan Di

Located in the ruins of ancient Shennong City at the top of Changyang Hill, the mausoleum is in the southern suburbs of Baoji, over 170 kilometers from Xi'an. Emperor Yan Di, or Shennong, was regarded as the god of agriculture, the sun and medicine. Both Emperor Yan Di and Yellow Emperor are esteemed as the founders of the Chinese nation. Surrounded by towering pine and cypress trees, the mausoleum, large in size, consists of a group of ancient architectures, such as the hall for offering sacrifices to Emperor Yan Di, the memorial archways,

bell and drum towers, the exhibition hall of Emperor Yan Di's relics. From the Emperor Yan Di's Hall to the tomb area is a flight of steps of 100 meters long, which is flanked by stone statues of the emperors of the past ages. At the Pure Brightness Festival (fifth solar term) and the anniversary of the death of Emperor Yan Di (the seventh day of the seventh lunar month) every year, various kinds of memorial activities with local characteristics are held here. Now the Mausoleum of Emperor Yan Di has become a sacred place for the Chinese people to worship their ancestors.

Opening hours: 08:20-17:30

Admission: 10 yuan

Transport: Tourists may go to Baoji first by bus along the Xi'an-Baoji Expressway. In Baoji they may take bus No. 2, 6 or 39 to the mausoleum.

Yan'an

To the north of Xi'an City, Yan'an is a famous historical and cultural city in China, as well as one of the birthplaces of the Chinese nation. As a revolutionary sacred place, Yan'an has a large number of revolutionary sites, such as Baota Hill, Yangjialing, Wangjiaping and Nanniwan, which have become the education places of revolutionary traditions.

Hukou Waterfall

Located in Qinjin Canyon on the lower reaches of the Yellow River, Hukou Waterfall is the second largest waterfall in China, only next to Huangguoshu Waterfall in Guizhou.

Hukou Waterfall is in a narrow,

precipitous gorge with tall mountains on both banks. When the Yellow River comes here, the width of the riverbed suddenly shrinks from over 300 meters to 50-some meters. And the running water falls directly into a 34-meter-deep valley, giving out thunderous sound. Under the sunshine, the waterfall is like a dancing rainbow.

Hukou Waterfall boasts six wonderful sights: Smoke from the Water, Boat Moving on the Land, Rainbow Playing with Water, Raining Under the Bright Sun, Flying Mountain and Standing Sea, and Thunderous Sound in a Fine Day. An old saying goes: "The water of the Yellow River comes from Heaven." The waterfall that drops at a high speed creates vapor in the air, just like dense smoke rising from the bottom of the river, a fantastic scene that can be seen over 10 kilometers away. Under the bright sunshine, rising sprays form various kinds of rainbows. Now the rainbows in the shape of an arc penetrate into the water from Heaven; now resemble long dragon playing in the water; and now are like an arched bridge. Hukou Waterfall

presents different colors along with the change of the four seasons. In spring when the land is thawed, ice falls down with the thundering sound, making visitors think it was a landslide. In summer and autumn, it rains frequently, with turbulent waves, which make the waterfall as wide as 100 meters, and the surrounding areas enveloped by vapor and sprays. In winter, the land, clad in snow and ice, grows more enchanting.

Add: Hukou Township, Yichuan County

Admission: 26 yuan

Transport: Tourists may go from Xi'an to Yichuan by bus, where they can change a tourist bus to Hukou.

Mausoleum of Yellow Emperor

At the top of Qiaoshan Hill, one kilometer north of Huangling County, it is the cemetery of Xuanyuan, the founder of the Chinese nation. Yellow Emperor, whose surname is Gongsun, styled himself Xuanyuan as he lived on Xuanyuan Hill. He defeated Emperor Yan Di at Banquan, killed Chiyou after a long and fierce battle at Zhuolu, and



Mausoleum of Yellow Emperor

replaced Yan Di to be an emperor. He was a chieftain of a clan at the end of the primitive society, and an ancestor who created civilization of the Chinese nation, known as the "founder of Chinese culture." Legend has it that he invented the way of raising silkworms, discovered many medicinal herbs, and created boats, chariots, imperial palaces and Chinese characters.

The mausoleum includes Yellow Emperor's Tomb, Xuanyuan Temple, Hanwu Imperial Terrace, ancient tablets, an ancient cypress tree planted by Yellow Emperor, and "General Cypress Tree" on which Emperor Wu Di of the Han Dynasty once hung his armor before his expedition. In front of the Tomb of Yellow Emperor stands a memorial pavilion, which holds a large stone tablet with an inscription of "Mausoleum of Yellow Emperor," showing the handwriting of Guo Moruo, a famous modern writer and archaeologist. Along a nine-turn bridge with stone railings, visitors can go to the "Hanwu Imperial Terrace," which stands beside the mausoleum. Ancient cypress trees grow luxuriantly to the west of the mausoleum, and the Jushui River lies below, presenting picturesque scenery.

Opening hours: 08:00-17:00

Admission: 21 yuan

Transport: Buses and minibuses go directly from the Xi'an Railway Station to the mausoleum.

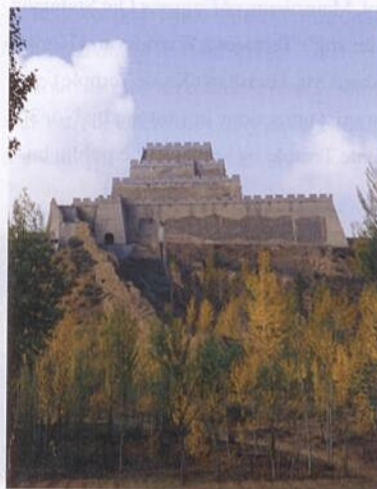
Yulin

Yulin is located at the junction of the Loess Plateau and Maowusu Desert, and is cut through by the Yuxi Stream, a branch of the Yellow River, and the Wuding River. Yulin is known as the "area north of the Great Wall as fertile as the region south of the Yangtze River," with many tourist attractions, such as Tongwan City, Red Stone Gorge, White Cloud Mountain, Zhenbei Terrace, Cave with 10,000 Buddhist statues.

Zhenbei Terrace

Situated at the top of Hongshan Mountain in the northern suburbs of Yulin City, Zhenbei Terrace is about 7.5 kilometers from the city proper. In ancient China, Yulin was one of the nine frontier places of strategic importance. Such position has left Yulin many relics of Great Wall. Zhenbei Terrace was an observation post

Zhenbei Terrace



on the Great Wall built in the Ming Dynasty. Constructed in 1067 (the 35th year of the Wanli reign period of the Ming Dynasty), Zhenbei Terrace was an outpost to protect the trade between the Mongolian and Han peoples of Hongshan City (or Yima City).

Constructed against the Great Wall, Zhenbei Terrace was a key junction of south and north. The square terrace has four stories, one smaller than another, and the top story being the smallest. The stories are linked by flights of brick steps. At the center of the top story, there was a square sentry shed with a brick-and-wood structure, and a flagpole. Now Zhenbei Terrace has been restored to its original look of the Ming Dynasty. At the top, there is a telescope, which can help tourists to have a view of the vast desert and "mirages." At the foot of the terrace, some war-horses stand. Tourists can mount the horses and gallop along the Great Wall.

Opening hours: 08:00-18:00

Admission: 10 yuan

Transport: Buses go regularly from the Xi'an Chengdong Bus Station (Changle Zhonglu) to Yulin.



Recommended Tourist Itineraries

Tour round the City Proper

A. One-day Tour: Bell Tower, Drum Tower, Stele Forest, Ancient Xi'an City Wall, Greater Wild Goose Pagoda, and Shaanxi History Museum.

B. Two-day Tour: Banpo Museum, Great Mosque, Lesser Wild Goose Pagoda, the Memorial Hall of the Eighth Route Army's Xi'an Office, and Xingqing Palace Park.

Tourists can visit most tourist attractions in the city proper by No. 610 bus or minibus.

Five-day Tour of Xi'an

Day 1: Arrive in Xi'an and have supper.

Day 2: Museum of Emperor Qin Shihuang's Terracotta Warriors and Horses (Pit 1, Pit 2, Pit 3, and bronze chariots and horses), Huaqing Pool (Five-bay Hall / Imperial Concubine Pool), and Banpo Museum

Day 3: Tomb of Imperial Concubine Yang, Famen Temple, Qianling Mausoleum, and tomb of Princess Yongtai.

Day 4: Greater Wild Goose Pagoda, Qin Imperial Palace, Shaanxi History Museum, Stele Forest and the Ancient Xi'an City Wall.

Day 5: Departure.

Eastern Tourist Route

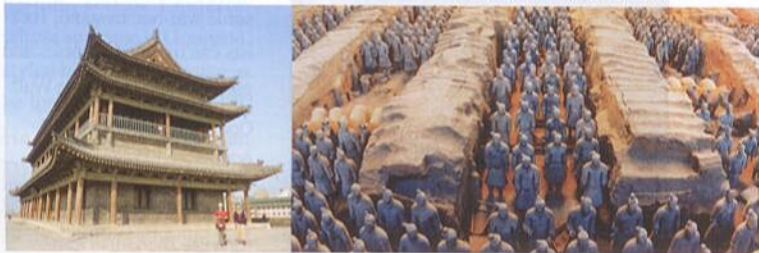
A. One-day Tour: Huaqing Pool, Mausoleum of Emperor Qin Shihuang, and Museum of Emperor Qin Shihuang's Terracotta Warriors and Horses.

B. One-day Tour of Mt. Huashan: Mt. Huashan (Xiyue Temple)

Tourists may go to the main tourist attractions in Lintong by No. 306 bus, and to Mt. Huashan and Xiyue Temple by special-line public bus.

Drum Tower

Terracotta Warriors and Horses



Recommended Tourist Itineraries

Western Tourist Route

A. One-day Tour: Xianyang Museum, Qianling Mausoleum, Famen Temple and Maoling Mausoleum.

B. One-day Tour of Taibai Mountain: Taibai Mountain National Forest Park.

Southern Tourist Route

A. Tour of Chang'an: Mt. Cuihua, Mt. South Wutai and Xingjiao Temple.

B. Tour of Lantian: Ruins of Lantian Man, Shuilu Nunnery and Lantain Karst Cave.

C. Tour of Huxian County: Caotang Temple, Gaoguan Waterfall, Exhibition Hall of Farmer Paintings, and Zhuque National Forest Park.

D. Tour of Zhouzhi: Louguan Terrace and Xianyou Temple.

Tourists may take special-line tourist buses from Xi'an to go to all tourist attractions in Chang'an, or the shuttle buses from Xi'an to Lantian, Huxian and Zhouzhi counties, where they may change buses to different places of scenic and historic interest.

Northern Tourist Route

A. One-day Tour: Yaozhou Kiln Museum, Mausoleum of Yellow Emperor and Yaowang Mountain

B. Two-day Tour: The revolutionary sites in Yan'an, and Hukou Waterfall on the Yellow River.

Tourists may take shuttle buses from Xi'an to Tongchuan, Huangling and Yan'an, where they may change tourist buses to go to different tourist attractions.

Huaqing Pool

Lesser Wild Goose Pagoda

