2 Jun 2025

Dear Oasis Traveller

It’s not long now until your trip starts in Kashgar! Please ensure you read all of this final update as it contains important information about your trip.

* Joining hotel and contacts
* Personal luggage
* Document copies
* Local Payment
* Personal spending money

Firstly, your Tour Leader for this adventure is Alexis, one of our top crew who has worked for us for many years. Having led truck trips and small group adventures on all 3 continents that we operate in, Alexis is hugely experienced. She ran our Kashgar to Singapore trip last year and so has fresh up to date knowledge of the whole route.

**Airport Transfers in Kashgar**

If you have an airport transfer arranged with us, then our local representative will meet you at the airport after you exit the passenger arrivals area. Look out for them, and other meeting reps. Our rep will be holding an Oasis Overland signboard. They will then transfer to your hotel. Note – we are using local drivers for these transfers, they may only have very limited English.

Once at the hotel, you can check in using your passport.

If you have any problems at the airport, or if your flights are delayed/cancelled/changed, please contact our local operations manager in China with your revised arrival details – Mr. Yu Ying – on +86-13981888129. You can also call our 24hr number if you can’t reach Yu Ying (+44 203 633 3041). An additional fee will be charged locally for a new transfer if you do not contact us in time to cancel your original arrangements.

**Joining hotel in Kashgar**

Our starting hotel where you will meet Alexis and your group:

***Qinivake International Hotel*** *(also known as Luxemon Qinibagh Hotel)*

***Address :*** *No. 144 Seman Road, Kashgar, Xinjiang, 844000, China*

***Phone :****+****86-998-5822000***

**Contacts:**

If you need to contact Alexis once you are in China, you can contact her on WhatsApp or WeChat on +1 (305) 582-0703 (her WeChat number may change though). We recommend you download the WeChat app before you leave. We recommend you drop her a message after you have got to the hotel just to let her know you have arrived. Please remember to tell her who you are! Alexis will arrive in Kashgar with the group from China sometime in the evening of the 4th July.

We also recommend that you download a VPN app to your phone. This will allow you to make your phone look like it is not in China and make a lot of things you may want to do online on your phone easier. Do speak to a friend or family member if you are unsure about how to add or use a VPN app.

Our UK 24 hour emergency number if you can’t reach her is +44 203 633 3041.

**Meeting point & time**

The meeting point and time for your trip will be 9am on Day 2 (Sat 5th July). Alexis, and the rest of the group arriving from Kyrgyzstan will be crossing the border during the day 4th July, and getting to the hotel sometime that evening. Exactly what time will depend on how their crossing goes, and their journey down to Kashgar.
So, you may or may not see them in the hotel on the 4th. But please be ready in the hotel lobby at 9am on the 5th (having had breakfast), ready for a pre-departure meeting. After the meeting and introductions, you’ll then go on your city tour.

**China visa**

When you have your visa, please send us a colour scan/photo of it. We need this in order to apply for your Tibet permit.

If you already have this visa from a previous visit, please send us a colour scan/photo. If it is in an old passport that you’re not using for travelling, please also send a colour scan of the old passport. ***You must bring this old passport with you on the trip.***

**Personal luggage**

Please remember that during the trip you will be carrying your own luggage between hotels, train stations, transfer vehicles etc. So, you need to make sure you only bring what you are comfortable carrying yourself for a walk of say 30mins at the most. You may need to stand with your backpack on whilst on public transport, and metros can take time and be crowded. We recommend that you bring your gear in a traditional soft sided 70 - 90L rucksack or holdall - suitcases are not ideal and are hard to manoeuvre and store.

**Document copies to take with you**

Please bring **1** **colour photocopy of your passport ID pages** to give to your tour leader. These are sometimes required by hotels or at check points.

It’s also a good idea to have a digital copy of your passport and passport photo, along with a copy of your vaccination certificates, including Covid. We would also suggest you take a paper copy of your passport and travel insurance.

**Local Payment**

Your tour leader will collect your Local Payment on Day One. Please remember that this must be paid in US$ Dollars **cash only**. Make sure that all your notes are in good condition. Old, torn or marked notes are often refused by banks and we will therefore be unable to accept them either. Please **bring these in larger denominations, e.g. US$50 and US$100 notes**. Also make sure they are dated post 2013 and do not have a serial number starting with CB.

**Personal spending money**

As mentioned in our first update, it’s good to have both WeChat and Alipay set up to make payments. Cash is becoming hard to use in some places as most locals pay with their phones. Some shops will not accept cash or won’t have change to give you. We suggest downloading an app such as Wechat Cash or Alipay (TourCard). Both are available for foreigners to use. Many stores don't have card readers and so won't accept physical card payments or payments via international phone apps like Apple Pay.
However, it is still always good to have some cash as back up because the apps can be finicky, but it isn’t a necessity. Changing money at banks in China can take AGES. It is a process. ATMs are probably the best bet for cash, so check your card will work when in China and use a card that will not charge you high exchange fees.

We hope you have a wonderful time!

Best wishes,

The Oasis Overland team