



Tangula Luxury Trains

Exclusive rail journeys through the remote western regions of China

Tangula's state-of-the-art, custom-built trains travel along two routes between Beijing and Lhasa across the Tibetan plateau, and between Beijing and Lijiang through the colourful southern province of Yunnan. Travellers will experience unprecedented access to destinations extraordinarily rich in culture and natural beauty while enjoying world-class luxury and comfort.



The Northern Route

Five-day/four-night journeys depart from Beijing to Lhasa, with four-day/three-night journeys departing from Lhasa for Beijing. En route, guests will traverse the spectacular Tibetan plateau, passing through the snow-capped Yuzhu Mountain range and within touching distance of the pristine Cuona Lake.

Journeys

The remote western region of China with its complex history, varied geographies and myriad peoples, awaits exploration. Tangula offers four distinctive train journeys through this vast, unforgettable land. Each journey includes daily off-train excursions, on-board activities, meals, beverages and service charge.

Tangula's off-train excursions provide passengers with privileged access to inspiring natural landscapes, ancient landmarks and timeless traditions. From exploring mystical Buddhist monasteries to sipping tea with grassland nomads, rafting on breathtaking river gorges to photographing rare Tibetan antelope, these adventures connect guests with China's unique environments, and bring them closer to the diverse cultures on each route. In addition, a variety of on-board activities brings to life the regional histories and customs encountered along the way.

The Northern Route

Beijing to Lhasa and Lhasa to Beijing

Beijing

China's thriving capital and 2008 Olympic Games host city is a destination of extremes; with striking architectural icons, such as the "Bird's Nest" National Stadium and CCTV Tower, springing up beside ancient national treasures, such as the Forbidden City and Summer Palace.

Xining (Taer Monastery)

This ancient hillside temple is one of China's largest Lama monasteries. Blending Han and Tibetan architecture, its colourful Buddhist sculptures and wall paintings are revered works of art.

Qinghai Lake

China's largest salt-water lake sits 3,200 metres above sea level. Its azure waters and alpine backdrop make it one of the China's most cherished scenic treasures.

Delingha

The beautiful Keluke and Tuosu lakes, known as the twin lakes, lie outside the city. Linked by one small silver creek – one lake is fresh water, the other salt water.

Golmud

Isolated by the massive Kunlun Mountains, vast grasslands, and Chaerhan Salt Lake, the area has been virtually unexplored by foreign visitors.

Tibetan Plateau

Covered by wild grasslands, crystal lakes, snow-capped mountains and meandering rivers, the vast plateau is one of the world's most breathtaking high-altitude regions.

Yuzhu Mountain

Rising majestically from the Tibetan plateau, this snow-capped jewel of the Kunlun Mountain Range seemingly punctures the cloudless blue sky.

Tangula Pass

The summit on the Qinghai-Tibet railway sits at 5,072 metres above sea level and is the highest train station on earth. Travelling through the pass is like riding along the roof of the world – a truly spectacular sensation.

Cuona Lake

At 4,594 metres, this is one of the world's highest freshwater lakes. During winter, the frozen waters refract the sunlight in dazzling kaleidoscopes, while herds of Tibetan yaks graze on the lakeshore.

Lhasa

Framed by a picturesque mountain backdrop, the ancient Tibetan capital is frequently featured as a hot travel destination. In addition to the Barkhor market, Potala Palace and Jokhang Temple, intriguing temples and shrines are dotted across the hillsides.



The Southern Route

Five-day/four-night journeys depart from Beijing to Lijiang, with four-day/three-night journeys departing from Lijiang to Beijing. Highlights of this journey include the mystical karst landscapes of the Li River, the extraordinary Shilin Stone Forest and the ethnic minority cultures, architectural styles and cuisines of Yunnan province.



The Southern Route

Beijing to Lijiang and Lijiang to Beijing

Beijing

China's fast-changing capital blends historic temples and palaces with experimental new architecture and fashionable shopping, dining and nightlife. From the futuristic "Bird's Nest" National Stadium and traditional opera, to Peking Duck dinners and, of course, the Great Wall of China, it is a city of diverse experiences and wonders.

Guilin-Li River

Giant limestone rock formations create Guilin's unforgettable landscapes. The sensual morning mists, serene vistas and spectacular Li River have inspired generations of Chinese poets and artists.

Xingyi

A cultural melting pot populated by Han and Yi, and flanked by Miao and Buyi minority villages, Xingyi is a wonderful place to experience local traditions.

Shilin Stone Forest

Formed by the elements over several millennia, this expansive constellation of thousands of jagged stone peaks rising from the earth is truly mysterious.

Kunming

China's 'City of Eternal Spring' is the capital of Yunnan province. This green tree-filled city boasts elegant hilltop temples and parks, and blends modern city life with the traditions of its ethnic peoples.

Dali

The ancient settlement of Dali is home to the indigenous Bai people's colourful culture. Experience their fascinating customs, as well as Dali's fine pagodas, slate stone architecture and moated city walls.

Lijiang

The UNESCO World Heritage old town is a charming labyrinth of narrow streets, streams, markets and teahouses, overlaid with the fascinating culture of the indigenous Naxi people.

Note: Stops will vary slightly in each direction and are subject to change prior to service launch and finalisation of itineraries.

The On-board Experience

Tangula's journeys are a balance of remote exploration and modern luxury. Our guests have the freedom to tailor the experience to their desires. From selecting adventurous excursions or joining social activities in the lounge, to choosing to enjoy the passing scenery in the comfort of their private suite accompanied by a glass of wine and beautiful music. Every need is anticipated, every whim satisfied.

Tangula's elegant, modern interiors accentuate the Chinese influences and natural materials. The subtle shades and textures – soft leathers, beautiful silks, rich stone and exotic woods – create a sense of harmony with the outside world. Enlarged windows throughout the train, designed for the widest possible views, frame the dramatic passing landscapes. The overall environment of relaxed luxury, state-of-the-art technology and elegant entertainment will set new standards of excellence and comfort in rail travel.

Luxury Accommodation

Tangula's spacious private suites feature clean, contemporary design and the amenities of a five-star hotel. All suites offer one full-sized or two twin beds, en suite bathroom and shower, luxury linens, custom bath products, flat-screen television, entertainment system, satellite internet, mini bar and safe. A soothing palette of colours creates an atmosphere of tranquillity, while enlarged windows guarantee a continuous panorama of changing landscapes.

Dining and Lounge

Deliciously prepared cuisine, using the freshest ingredients, is an intrinsic part of the Tangula experience. Western and Asian specialities are created in fully equipped on-board kitchens, and are served in elegant and relaxing settings with an excellent selection of wines, cocktails and spirits.





On-board Services

Tangula Luxury Trains are managed by Kempinski, ensuring world-class hospitality. Europe's oldest luxury hotel collection, Kempinski Hotels currently operates ten hotel properties throughout China.

Modern comforts and impeccable service add a unique sense of intimacy and exclusivity to the journey. Each suite car has a butler, on call 24 hours, trained to anticipate the needs of our guests and comply with utmost speed and efficiency. In-room wellness treatments, performed by qualified specialists facilitate pampering. All staff members speak English and Chinese, as well as other languages.

The wireless VoIP network and complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi Internet access, available for most of the journey, enables passengers to stay connected, should they choose, while in-room USB power sockets and MP3/video device docking stations with sound systems provide all the conveniences of home.

Train Facts

Tangula trains carry a maximum of 96 guests, and feature six suite cars on each side of two dining cars and a scenic car. A suite car has just four private guest rooms – two passengers per room – and butler's quarters.

Security and the environment are Tangula priorities. Each train is secured with power-operated and locked external doors and has electronically controlled personal access to each suite. Tangula has a zero discharge policy – all waste will be collected and disposed of according to stringent regulations.

Tangula trains reach a top speed of 160 kph (100 mph) with a reduced maximum speed of 100 kph (62 mph) over the permafrost sections of the Tibetan plateau.

The train cars are manufactured in China by Bombardier Sifang Power (Qingdao) Transportation Ltd. All trains will be operated by Tanggula Railtours Ltd., a joint venture owned by Tangula Group and the Qinghai-Tibet Railway Corp. (QTRC), the government-owned railway operator in Qinghai Province and the Tibet Autonomous Region.

Pre-departure Information

Travel Visa & Permit

A pre-obtained visa is required for anyone entering China. A Tibet Travel Permit is also necessary for guests visiting Tibet. Guests should speak with their travel agent or our sales office to obtain up-to-date requirements and policy on these visas and permits.

Altitude Preparation

The Beijing-Lhasa route crosses the Tibetan plateau at a maximum altitude of 5,072 metres. Guests are advised to consult a physician before travelling. The on-board Tangula oxygen generation system provides a consistent oxygen-enriched atmosphere throughout the train to help compensate for the high altitude. Between Golmud and Lhasa, a specially trained physician will be on board. For more information, guests can obtain a copy of Tangula's Conditions of Carriage available through our sales office or their travel agent. All guests must sign a health declaration form before travelling.

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