

Sep. 2014

Vol. 8



Hello! China

Lhasa Travel Guidebook



Group Tours with Solo Adventure!

Lhasa Quick Facts

- **City Name:** Lhasa (拉萨, lā sà)
- **Population:** 0.56 million
- **Location:** Southwest China
- **Features:** The charming culture and historical site.
- **Area Code:** 0891
- **Zip Code:** 850000

Overview

Lhasa is the capital city of Tibet Autonomous Region and has long been the center of politics, economy, culture and religion in Tibet. Lhasa is located at the center part of Tibet and is the most suitable places for travelers to Tibet. Lhasa means "holy land" in Tibetan language, and its status of the "holy land" is evidenced by the various monasteries in the city, Barkhor pilgrim circuit.

Lhasa has become a prime tourism center and an important and a practical stop in preparations to further tours into the region. Lhasa is the first stop of most travelers. From Lhasa, tourists can travel to Shigatse to visit and appreciate Tashihunpo Monastery, the seat of the Panchen Lama and further to Dingri to explore Mountain Everest-from where you can pass the Zhangmu Port to Nepal; or venture into the hinterland of Tibet to see more wild and rarely-visited sights in western Tibet such as Ngari and Nagqu.

Contents

- 01** Lhasa Quick Facts
- 01** Overview
- 02** Lhasa Weather
- 03** What to See in Lhasa
- 11** Recommended Lhasa Tours
- 13** What to Do in Lhasa
- 16** What to Eat in Lhasa
- 19** What to Buy in Lhasa
- 21** Solo Adventure in Lhasa
- 23** Lhasa Hotels
- 26** Lhasa Transportation



Lhasa, located on valley alluvial plain with the altitude of 3.650 meters, is one of the cities with the highest altitude in the world, enjoying plateau semi-arid monsoon climate. Lhasa, celebrated as “Sunlight City”, features strong solar radiation, large temperature difference and long duration of sunshine, with the annual sunshine duration of over 3,000 hours. The annual precipitation of Lhasa ranges from 200 to 510 mm, which mainly concentrates from June to September.

The hottest month falls in June, with the monthly average temperature of 15.7°C and the highest temperature of 22.9°C on average. The coldest month falls in January, with the average temperature of -2°C and the lowest temperature of -9.7°C on average.

Best Visiting Time

Summer and autumn are ranked as the best seasons for visiting Lhasa when the weather is comfortable and a number of festivals are held during these seasons.

Average Data	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
High (°C)	6.8	9.2	12	15.7	19.7	22.5	21.7	20.7	19.6	16.4	11.6	7.7
Low(°C)	-10.2	-3.9	-3.2	0.9	5.1	9.2	9.9	9.4	7.6	1.4	-5	-9.1





What to See in Lhasa

Potala Palace

Potala Palace, which is now on the list of Chinese national key protected cultural relics, is the most valuable depot in Tibet. It is a huge treasure house of ancient materials and articles of Tibetan history, religion, culture, and arts. The palace is widely known for the countless precious sculptures, murals, scriptures, Buddha figures, murals, antiques, and religious jewelry housed in its many rooms, all of great cultural and artistic value. In 1994, Potala Palace was declared a UNESCO [World Cultural Heritage Site](#).

External appearance and structure: Potala Palace is 3,756.5 meters above sea level, covering an area of over 360,000 square meters, measuring 360 meters from east to west, and stretching 270 meters from south to north. It has a total of 13 stories, and is 117 meters high. The walls of the palace are over 1 meter in thickness, with the thickest sections being 5 meters wide. Moreover, the walls are covered with huge, colorful, carefully painted murals, allowing history to seep back into the building beautifully and gracefully.

- **Admission:** 100 yuan/person
- **Opening Hours:** 9: 30a.m-13: 00p.m.; 15: 00p.m-18: 00p.m
- **Getting there:** By taxi from the back of the hill. 2.Climbing up from the front path.



Sera Monastery

Sera Monastery has its own noted religious festival called "Blessing of the Dagger of Exorcism." Legend goes that at the end of the 15th century, the Dagger of Exorcism was brought to Tibet from India. It was enshrined in Drepung Buddhist Guardian Hall of Sera Monastery by the Abbot of Gyi Zhacang on 27th of the 12th month of the Tibetan calendar.

In the past, in the early mornings of December 27, the staff of the Gyi Zhacang attire first took the Dagger of Exorcism to Potala Palace to the Dalai Lama. After the Dalai Lama offered blessing to it, the Dagger of Exorcism was sent back to Sera Monastery. Upon their return to the Sera Monastery, a general blessing of the Dagger of Exorcism was given by the monks and lay communities. Every year on that day since, thousands of pilgrims take part in the festival.

- **Admission:** 55yuan/person
- **Opening Hours:** 09:00am to 16:00pm
- **Getting there:** By minibus in downtown. It is advisable for you to take a taxi.



Bakhor Street

In the street, visitors can find satisfactory souvenirs, and experience the mysterious "one step one kowtow" faith to religion. All the houses along the street are stores. All kinds of fantastic commodities show us all aspects of the Tibetan life. Such as: Thangkas, copper Buddha, prayer wheels, butter lamps, prayer flags with sutras, beads, Tibetan joss sticks, cypress, etc.

Household goods in shops are in abundant, such as: cushion, Pulu, aprons, leather bag, harness, snuff bottles, steels, Tibetan-style quilts, Tibetan-style shoes, clasp knives, Tibetan-style hats, butter, butter pots, wooden bowls, Highland Barley Wine, sweet milk tea, milk residue, air-dried beef and mutton, etc. All kinds of tourist products, cheap but good, can be found in the 1,000-meter-long street.



- **Opening Hours:** Don't stroll in the Bakhor Street too late. Every day after 6 o'clock the Bakhor Street will turn to a fair trade market, mainly selling small articles of everyday use.

- **Getting there:** Bus 5, 6, 9, 25 to Health Care Hospital

- **Tips:**

Second-hand goods: For some unknown reasons, the stall keepers in the Bakhor Street firmly believe that second-hand goods can be sold at a high price, so they will show you new articles while telling you they are second-handed. In fact, that's only a way of deciding the value, which will not indicate any problem about their judgment.

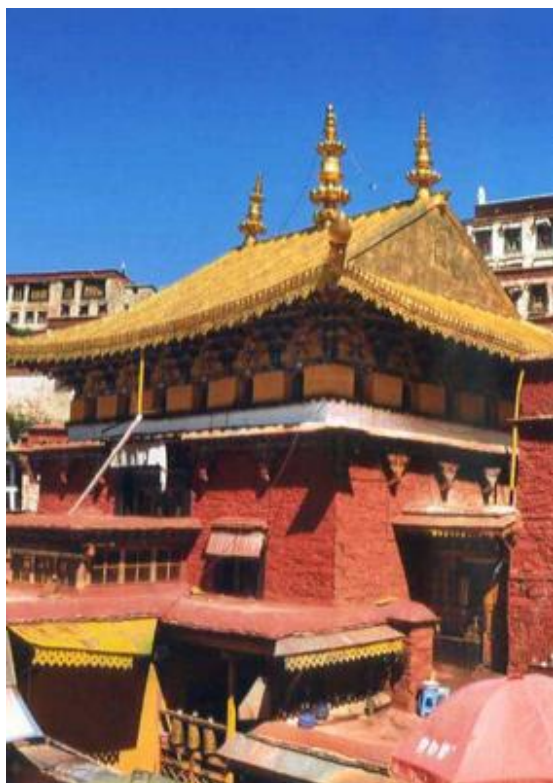
Bargain: When shopping in the Bakhor Street, visitors shall learn to bargain with the stall keepers. The stall keepers will charge quite differently for the same article, usually by ten times. Don't make the final decision before inquiring several shops. The quality of the same goods differ greatly, especially the Dzi Beads from Heaven.

Discounts: According to the ancient customs, every day the Tibetan stall keepers will offer discounts to the first and the last buyers. Besides, the stall keeper will tap the money, charged from the buyers, on the goods as a way of inviting the God of Wealth.

Drepung Monastery

The Shoton Festival (雪顿节) is held in the late six month to the early seventh month of Tibetan calendar. In Tibetan, Sho means yoghurt and ton means feast, so the festival is a day for eating yoghurt. On Shoton Festival, a large Thangka (唐卡) on which printed a big Buddha will be displayed on the slope of the mountain.

At that day, hundreds of thousand people gather there to worship the big Buddha Thangka. From the second day of Shoton Festival, there comes another highlight. The Tibetan opera will be played in the zong jiao lu kang (宗角禄康), right in front of the Potala Palace and Norbulingka every day. It will last several days to the end of the festival.



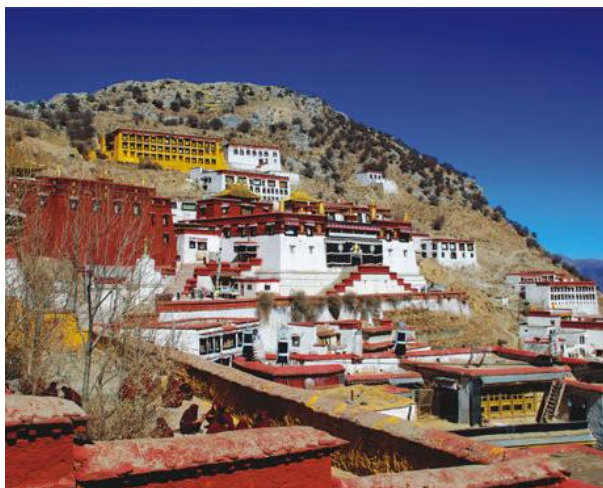
- **Admission Fee:** 55Yuan/Person
- **Get There:** It's more convenient by Taxi than by bus, and the fee is about RMB 20 yuan.
- **More Tips:**
 1. If taking bus 3, 301 or 302 to access Drepung Monastery, you will have to walk a long distance from the bus stop to the gate. A taxi can bring you directly to the entrance and costs 20 Yuan RMB.
 2. In this monastery, the most important project is Shaidafo (a Buddha), which holds the grand Shonton Festival ceremony in the early part of August every year. This is thus the busiest day of the year with heavy crowds and traffic. When the sun rises, the huge Thangkas will extend to half of the mountain. The Tibetans will pray under the Thangkas and encircle it in a long queue. At last, Giant Living Buddha will touch their heads to give blessings to them.
 3. The best place to take photos of Giant Living Buddha is from the flat on the opposite mountain.

Ganden Monastery

Ganden Monastery was set up in the early 15th century by Tsong Khapa (the founder of Gelug). According to the legend, he learned to read at the age of 3, and entered into religion at 7 with the religious name of Luosanzhaba, and made the present name Tsong Khapa for himself as a respectable religion leader.

The major events in his life experience were: he went to Tibet study power of Buddha at 16(1372) when he studied xianmijiaofa, following many learned monks; he got the degree at 25 and began to impart the Buddhism at 29 and formed his own thoughts while writing books at 40. In 1406, he held a large meeting to expand the influence of Yellow Sect at the first day of the first lunar month at Jokhang.

After that, supported by Pazu, he and his disciples established Ganden Monastery in the Wangbori Mountain. It is in this monastery that he settled down and continued to develop Gelug. In 1419, Tsong Khapa passed away and his disciple, Jiazhaojie took over this monastery. After the management of 95 abbots, Ganden Monastery has been expanded into a grand architecture building.



- **Location:** Ganden monastery lies in Lhatse County, 57 kilometers east of Lhasa, the Wangbori Mountain with the altitude of 3,800 meters.
- **Get There:** By bus on the Jokhang square, RMB 20 yuan for round-trip ticket, 2 hours' route, set off at 7:00 a.m. and return at 14:00 a.m. everyday
- **Admission Fee:** 30yuan/person
- **Opening Hours:** 09:00-16:00

Gangrenboqi Mountain

Gangrenboqi is located on the north of Lake Manasarovar (玛旁雍错), Tibet. The peak of the mountain is covered by snow all the year round. The shape of the mountain is like a pyramid. There is a mysterious feature of the holy mountain. The snow on the sunny slope never melts over the year. On the contrast, the snow on the opposite side melts as the sunshine covers it.

Gangrenboqi Mountain(冈仁波齐山) is the most famous holy mountain in Tibet. It is reputed as the center of the world by Tibetan Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism and Bon. With the elevation of 6, 638 meters above sea level, Gangrenboqi Mountain is the main peak of Mt. Gangdise. On the elevation of over 4,700 meters, it's a great risk and ordeal for hikers. Thus, visitors had better prepare suitable warm clothes and enough high-calorie food.

At the same time, it was perceived as the centre of the world by Hindu, Tibetan Buddhism, Tibet primary religion Ben and Gumaona Buddhism. Gangrenboqi's meaning is "Sacred Mountain" in Tibetan and "Hindu Lord's Heaven" in Sanskrit. It was also the origin of Ben Buddhism.

- **Location:** Gangrenboqi is located on the north of Lake Manasarovar
- **Admission:** Free
- **Tips:**
 1. It is very dangerous to circling the mountain. Because it locates on the plateau and lack of oxy oxygen, visitors can leave the heavy backpack in the hotel.
 2. The night of Tibet is very cold because of the topography. Visitors should prepare enough coats to keep warm at night.
 3. Best time to visit: June to September.



Jokhang Monastery

In the 7th century AD, China was under the reign of the Tang Dynasty. The era when Emperor Taizong Li Shimin reigned is called the Golden Years of Zhenguan (Zhenguan being the reign title of Emperor Taizong), and it took a long period of 22 years (627-649) for the Tang Empire to become the first power in Asia. At the same time, Tibet was a small country on the frontier governed by Songsten Gampo who ascended the throne as the king at the age of 13.

Under the administration of Songsten Gampo, the national strength of Tibet was so powerful that no country could parallel it except the Tang Dynasty of China. Songtsen Gampo was a statesman of vision. He first married the Nepalese Princess Khidzun, and then twice later, he sent a minister to Chang'an (present-day Xi'an, China) in search of a Tang Princess to marry. Finally, the Princess Wencheng was betrothed to him.



- **Get There:** By minibus to Tibetan hospital. By tricycle is not a bad choice.
- **Opening Hours:** All day. At 14:00 novice monks meet on the balcony of the second floor to debate religious doctrine
- **More Tips:** Lamas of Jokhang Monastery chant sutras at night, it is worth listening. Guides are not enough in the monastery and only serve for tourism groups. The life-sized statue of Sakyamuni aged 12 is the most sacred statue in the eyes of Tibetan people.



Recommended Lhasa Tours



Travel to Lhasa in Four Days:

Day 1: Airport - hotel transfer

Day 2: Sera Monastery and Barkhor Street

Day 3: Potala Palace, Drepung Monastery and visit a Tibetan family

Day 4: Airport - hotel transfer



Travel to Lhasa in Five Days:

Day 1: Airport to Hotel Transfer (Lhasa)

Day 2: Sera Monastery, Norbulingka, Drepung Monastery

Day 3: Potala Palace, Jokhang Temple, Barkhor Street

Day 4: Yangpachen, Lake Namtso

Day 5: Hotel to airport Transfer (Lhasa)

Click <http://www.chinatravel.com/tours-to-lhasa/> for more Ljiangtours. If you want to design your own tour, China Travel can help [tailor-make a tour for you](#) which can save your time, money and trouble!



Group Tours with Solo Adventure!

What to Do in Lhasa



Group Tours with Solo Adventure!

Shoton Festival

Tibet Shoton Festival, a traditional time-honored Tibet festival, is one of the most important festivals in [Tibet](#) and Tibetan Buddhism, with the history of over 300 years. It's held on the 6th lunar month according to Tibetan calendar.

In Tibetan language, Shoton Festival means the festival of eating yoghurt. Shoton Festival is also called Yoghurt Festival. During the Shoton Festival, there are performances of Tibetan operas and large-scale Buddha painting exhibition. Thus, Shoton Festival is also called Tibetan opera festival or Buddha painting exhibition festival.

Every year, during the grand Tibet Shoton Festival, all the main genres of Tibet operas from various regions of Tibet gather together in Norbulingka in the western suburb of Lhasa and take several days to make performances and competitions, bustling with noise and excitement. The most solemn performance is Buddha painting exhibition and the most rejoicing show is Tibetan opera performance.

Besides, you can also watch yak racing, equestrian performances and dancing and singing performances. Meanwhile, Lhasa International Marathon Race is held simultaneously. When the festival comes, [Norbulingka](#) and its surrounding forests are filled with various bright-colored tents. All the people enjoy the outdoor life, singing and dancing to the music.



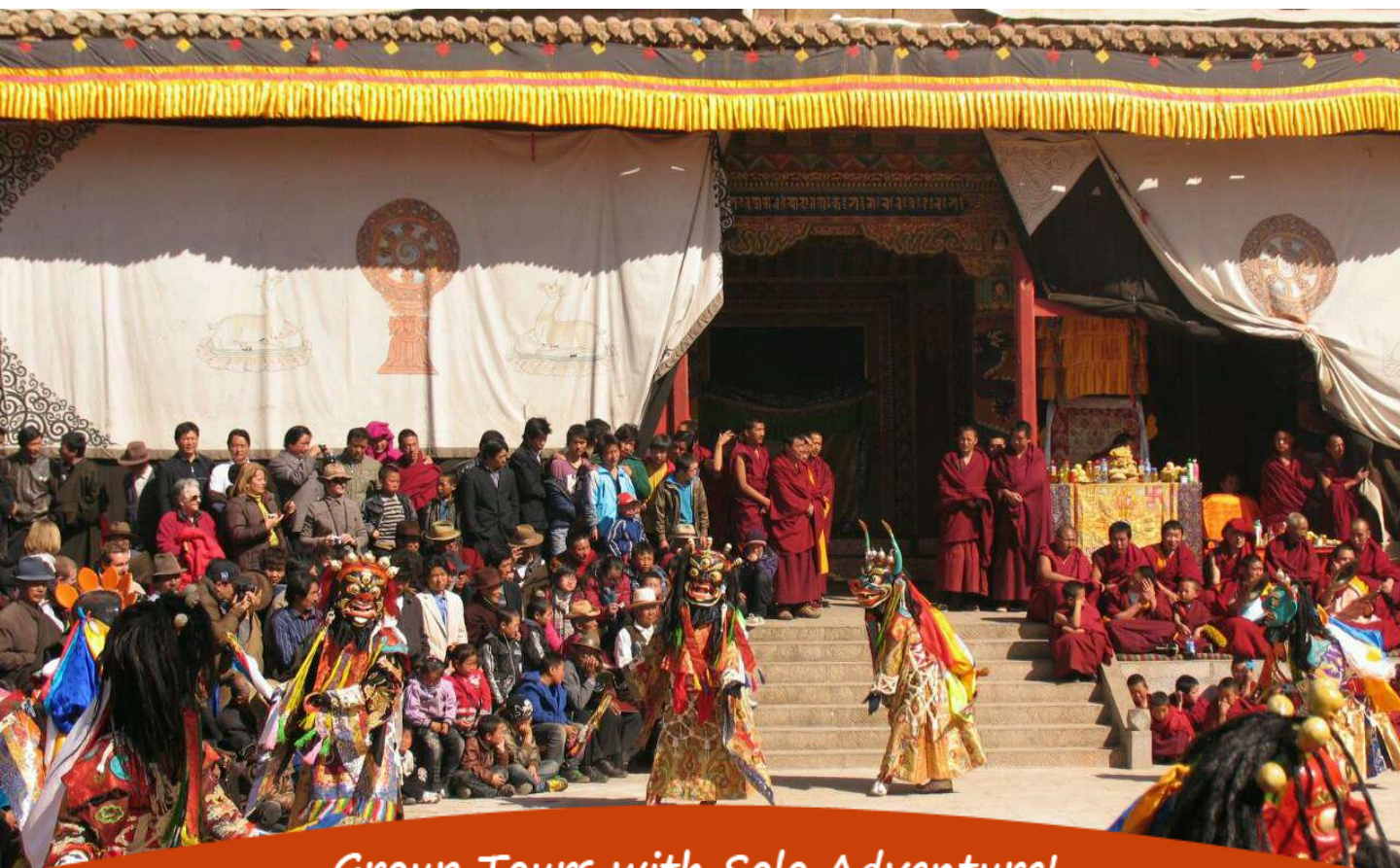


Tibetan New Year

The Tibetan New Year, also known as Losar, is the most important festival in the Tibetan lunar calendar. It is celebrated over a period of 2 weeks and generally falls during the months of December and January in the Western calendar.

Losar is enthusiastically celebrated by Tibetans and is marked by various ancient ceremonies that represent the struggle between good and evil, such as chanting and the passing of torches through the crowds. There are also many amusing activities for all ages such as the dance of the Ibex deer and the delightful dramatic battles between the King and his various ministers. Overall, Losar is especially known for its music, dance, and general spirit of merrymaking.

The traditions of the New Year's festival begin a bit early, during the last 2 days of the old year, a period called Gutor in the Tibetan language. The first day of Gutor is spent thoroughly cleaning the house and putting up decorations, especially auspicious items. The kitchen must be particularly clean, because since it is where the family's food is prepared, it must be kept free of bacteria. The chimney is also swept thoroughly.



Group Tours with Solo Adventure!



What to Eat in Lhasa



Kyichu restaurant

The Kyichu restaurant is within Kyichu Hotel. The Kyichu Restaurant is named after the Kyichu River. The name of the river in Tibetan is known as the river of happiness. The Kyichu Restaurant is situated between the sacred [Jokhang Temple](#) in Barkhor Square and the famous World Heritage [Potala Palace](#). It is convenient for visitors to have a trip to the nearby attractions after arranging the rooms and having a tasty meal.

The owner of the restaurant is a Chinese-Nepalese hybrid. There are authentic Nepalese dishes and Indian dishes. The restaurant has a nice environment for meals. The curry-based dishes are a little spicy. The restaurant has an outdoor garden with umbrella tables on their spacious green courtyard lawn. Visitors can take a breath and have a cup of java in the garden.



- **Must-Try Dishes**

Ginger Tea, Assorted Spinach, Steak, Chicken and Chilies, Egg Omelette, yak pizza, Yak Meat Soup

- **Featuring:** Tibetan, Chinese and Nepalese/Indian dishes

- **Good For:** Family, Solo Travelers, Lovers, Friends

- **Price:** 52 yuan per person

- **Address:** No.149 Beijing East Road, Chengguan District, Lhasa, China/ +86 0891-6331541, 0891-6338824 (It is about 10Yuan to take a taxi to get there.)

- **Nearby Attractions:** [Jokhang Temple](#), [Potala Palace](#)

The Summit Café

The Summit café is located in the corner of the Barkhor Street. It is within the noisy of the [Barkhor Street](#), but it has the peace and quiet out of the street. Visitors can enjoy the tranquil atmosphere with a cup of coffee. It is a good place for foreign visitors to have a rest during the afternoon of Tibet.

The Summit Café is a European style café. It is the highest cafe in the world. All kinds of the coffee are grinded by the premium Italian Espresso machines and grinders. With the specialty grade coffee beans and imported chocolate, visitors will drink the well-taste espresso-based drinks. Cake and pie is a highlight in this café. The Café provides not only the highest quality products but also service.

The Summit Café is a registered Fine Art Gallery. The café sell what to drink and eat, also the paintings, handicrafts and T-shirt. Visitors can see the works painted by the local artists for show and sell. There are also amazing Tibetan handicrafts and charming photographs of Tibet. Believe visitors can find a different Lhasa in this café.

- **Must-Try Dishes:**

Caffe Latte, Caramel Latte, Iced Latte, Iced Caramel Latte, New York Cheese cake, Roman Chocolate Cake, Chocolate Chip pie

- **Featuring:** Coffee, Iced Drink

- **Good For:** Solo Travelers, Friends Get-Together, Lovers

- **Price:** 47yuan

- **Address:**

1. 1, Dan Jie Lin Street, Lhasa, Tibet / +86 0891-6913884 (Bus 5, 6, 9, 25 to Health Care Hospital, near the Barkhor Square)

2. Wenzhou Mall, Linkuo North Road, Lhasa, Tibet / +86 0891-6315884 (it is 1.1 kilometres north from the Dan Jie Lin branch)

- **Nearby Attractions:** [Barkhor Street](#)





What to Buy in Lhasa

Lhasa Specialty

Tibetan Carpet: Tibetan carpet is mainly archaized carpet, which is said to have a history of 600 years. Tibetan carpet is uniquely woven with bright and harmonious colors, which are not easy to fade while being washed. Its surface feels soft and exquisite. The carpet is durable in addition to its strong national feature of design, which adds more value of appreciation and collection. Pulu is transliterated from Tibetan, which is actually woolen weaved artificially, with many colors of black, red and green.



Tibetan Incense: Tibetan incense is also a sort of very good tour souvenir, and Tibetan people use it to worship Buddha, drive evils away and conduct religious activities. There are many sorts of Tibetan incenses in market, and Guoleneaxiang is the most famous and precious. Guoleneaxiang has pure and strong aroma when stored in wardrobe, it can make not only clothes aromatic but also can protect the clothing from any insect.



Tibetan Medicine: Tibetan medicine is a unique Tibetan pharmacological science system that is formed during the course of their struggle against the nature and various diseases. It has a history of 2000 years or more, and many Tibetan medicines have good curative effect on some diseases such as cardiovascular disease and tumor; pearl seventy, momozhiqi, zhifanshiwu, alpine snow lotus herb, rhodiola root, musk and so on are rare Tibetan medicines.



Solo Adventure in Lhasa



Group Tours with Solo Adventure!

Tianhai Night Market In Lhasa

Tianhai Night Market is doubtless a delight for a night in Lhasa. You can see scary-looking food such as steamed lamb head, rice poured with lamb soup, fried lamb ribs and doner kebab. (Address: Tianhai Road, Chengguan District, Lhasa, Tibet, China)



Sweet Tea At Cangu Nunnery

Never advertises itself in a big volume, Cangu Nunnery still wins a number of hearts of those with a special taste and dare to adventure. You can kick back here with a cup of sweet tea served by the smiling nuns. (Address: Upper Linguo Road, Lhasa)





Lhasa Hotels





About Xinding Hotel

Located across from the famous Potala Palace and opened in 2007, Xinding Hotel is an international standard five-star hotel known for its luxury and elegance. The hotel is strategically and conveniently located, as some of Lhasa's most popular tourist attractions, such as the Jokhang Monastery and Ramoche Monastery, are only within ten minutes' walk from the hotel. Guests can also enjoy easy transportation to nearby commercial centers, as the hotel is located immediately next to the vibrant central district of Lhasa. Thoughtfully designed with Tibetan elements and decorations, Xinding Hotel is a unique place for luxurious hostelling and total relaxation.

- **Address:** No.8 Jinzhu Road, Lhasa
新鼎大酒店
- **Hotel Tel:** 0891-6808555
- **Quick Enquiry:** +86-773-2838787



Crowne Plaza Lijiang Ancient Town

Once was the residence of senior lamas in Tibet, Shambhala Palace opened in 2010 and located in a small alley in the center of the ancient city – Lhasa. With its convenient location, Shambhala Palace is near to the Jokhang Temple and Ramoche Temple.

- **Address:**
No.16 Taibeng Gang Wendui Xingka Sangdong Yuan, Lhasa
香巴拉宫 Shambhala Palace
- **Hotel Tel:** 0891-6307779
- **Quick Enquiry:** +86-773-2838787

ShangBaLa Hotel

ShangBaLa Hotel is a three-star hotel known for its welcoming, home-like atmosphere and its rising popularity among foreign travelers. The hotel has a uniquely traditional Tibetan interior décor, and has attracted curious guests from all over China and all over the world ever since its first establishment. Opened in 2008, ShangBaLa Hotel is in close vicinity to many of Lhasa's commercial and tourist sites, such as the Lhasa Commercial Center and the Dazhao Monastery. Partially hidden in a quiet alley in down Lhasa, ShangBaLa Hotel is a quiet and comfortable getaway for travelers, and a wonderful place of rest for tire legs.

- **Address:** Danjielin Road, Lhasa, China
西藏香巴拉酒店管理有限公司
- **Hotel Tel:** 0891-6323888
- **Quick Enquiry:** +86-773-2838787



Lhasa Transportation



Lhasa Air

Lhasa Gonggar Airport is 97 kilometers away from Lhasa City. It takes about 2 hours to get to downtown Lhasa by bus and the fare is 20 Yuan. The bus from Shigates or Tsetang to Lhasa also stops at the airport. At the Gonggar Airport, there are flights from and to Chengdu, Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Xi'an, Xining, Guangzhou, Chamdo, Kunming and Katmandu. The bus from Shigates or Tsetang to Lhasa also stops at the airport.

Tip

- **Flights information:** 6246465.
- **Air-tickets office:** No.1 Nangre Road; Tel: 0891-6833446; 0891-6822393 (at night)
- **Generally, there are flights between Lhasa and the following cities:** Beijing, Chengdu, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chongqing, Xi'an, Xi'ning, Kunming, Diqing, Changdu, Ali, Hong Kong and Katmandu.
- **The sales department Tel:** 0891-6830088

Flights between Lhasa and Ali

The flights between Lhasa and Ali operate on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday every week, with the flight number is TV9807. The flight departs in Lhasa Gonggar Airport at 09:40, and arrives in Ali Kunsha Airport at 11:20. Also, the flight departs in Ali at 12:10, and arrives in Lhasa at 13:10.

Flights between Lhasa and Chengdu

Flights between Lhasa and Chengdu operate every day. The flights with the number of TV9804 operate on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday each week, departing from Lhasa Gonggar Airport at 17:00 and arriving at Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport at 18:50, and departing from Chengdu at 19:10 and arriving in Lhasa at 21:10. Also, the flights with the flight number of TV9808 operate on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday every week, departing from Lhasa Gonggar Airport at 14:30 and arriving at Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport at 16:20; and departing from Chengdu at 18:50 and arriving in Lhasa at 20:50.





Lhasa Railway

The opening of the Qinghai-Tibet railway is a historical move for Tibet transportation which ended the situation of Tibet being one of the most inaccessible regions in China. Traveling to Lhasa by railway is selected as one of [Top 10 Things to Do in China](#). Now train service linking the Roof of the World to other parts of China. There are currently **six train services** to/from Lhasa which include [Beijing](#)-Lhasa, [Shanghai](#)-Lhasa, [Guangzhou](#)-Lhasa, Lanzhou/[xian](#)-Lhasa, [Chengdu](#)/Chongqing-Lhasa and Xining/Golmud-Lhasa.

Lhasa Railway Station

1788 kilometers (1111 miles) from Xining Railway Station, Lhasa Railway Station is the terminal station of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway. It is located on the southern bank of the Lhasa River, at an altitude of 3641 meters (11,946 feet). Lhasa Railway Station was put into use on July 1st, 2006. It is the largest railway station on the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, with 7 platforms which are all equipped with shelter from the weather. There are 10 station tracks: 8 arrival and departure tracks and 2 freight tracks.

The main station building measures 340 meters (1115 feet) in length and 60 meters (197 feet) in width, covering an area of 23,600 square meters (254,000 square feet). The main part of the station has 5 floors, with 4 waiting rooms. One of the soft seat waiting rooms is equipped with an escalator and an infirmary.

- **Phone number for ticket booking:** 9823-985-059 or 9888-036-007
- **Address:** Liuwu Village, Deqing County, Lhasa City.

[China Travel can help you plan your Lhasa trip just based on your needs. Feel free to let us know your idea.](#)





Lhasa Highway

Lhasa Long-distance Bus Station is located at the junction of Minzu Road and Jinzhuzhong Road.

Tips:

1. You can find some privately run buses around the Lhasa Long-Distance Bus Station. Before you take one, you'd better have a look at the condition of the bus and bargain with the driver. It may be less expensive if you charter a bus with several other people. The drivers are nice and may introduce some practical information about traveling.
2. The bus fare may fluctuate and the bus schedule may change according to different season. Lhasa Long-distance Bus Station is in the junction of Minzu Road and Jinzhuzhong Road, facing the Monument of Qinghai-Tibet Highway and Sichuan-Tibet Highway. For information you can call 0891-6824469. The Eastern Outskirts Bus Station has buses to the neighboring towns. The newly built Northern Outskirts Bus Station has buses to Ali.
3. If you want to go to Ali, you can take bus at Ali Office in Liangre Road in Lhasa, or at the Antelope Transport Company nearby. The company's contact telephone number is 6888929.



Lhasa City Transportation

Mini Buses

Taking mini-bus is the cheapest way to get around in the city. The fare is 2 Yuan no matter how far you go. Both No. 1 Bus and No. 2 Bus may take you to Norbulingkha or Lhasa Long-distance Bus Station. No.3 bus and No.5 bus may take you to Dreprung Monastery and No. 4 to Sera Monastery. The private run mini-bus or jeep follows certain fixed route and the fare is also 2 Yuan.



Man-powered tricycle

Man-powered tricycles running on the streets are very interesting sights. If you want one, just wave your hands. Riding a tricycle is a good way to enjoy the appearance of the city. A tricycle usually takes two people and the price varies from 4 Yuan to 7 Yuan. Before getting on it, don't forget to negotiate for the price.



Taxi

Taking a taxi may cost you 10 Yuan no matter where you go in the city. But if you want to go out of town, you'd better negotiate with the driver over the price. For Dreprung Monastery, you need to pay about 20 Yuan.

