

A SPECIAL WESTERN CHINA CULTURAL / PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPEDITION



A Photographic Diary of our October 2010 “Southern XinJiang Expedition”

by Yau-Sun Tong

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*Enjoy...*

# Preface

The following images within this “**Photo-diary**” of 《2010 October Southern XinJiang Cultural/ Photographic Expedition》 were taken with a little pocket-sized **Leica D-Lux 3** camera.

These **snapshots** are only intended **to capture** and **to document** the **events, our travel routes,** the **joy and fun of our tour members** during this lifetime experience of a fantastic visit to another region of western China; and for our memories.

High quality slide-film images taken during this tour are **not** shown in this **photo-diary**. My slide-film images will only be shown through actual slide-film projectors on large screens during slide-show presentations.

# Brief intro

Gathered in *Beijing* at late July, our tour group flew to *Urumqi*  
started this lifetime experience of our  
《**2010 Western China “Southern XinJiang” Cultural/Photographic Expedition**》  
which was especially  
designed for those who were interested in a real cultural experience  
in some of the fascinating places for unusual and  
rich topics of travel and photography.

Some of the most interesting areas in XinJiang were hand-picked to be arranged in the itinerary.

The following images in chronological order are intend to share the enjoyments  
from some of the events and highlights of this 16-day journey –  
another successful expedition in our  
**Western China Cultural/Photographic Tour Series.**

**My sincere appreciation and many thanks to all participants of this very special tour!**

## Map of China



Our Oct. 14th - 31st Special South XinJiang Expedition itinerary routes are within the **red line circled** area of XinJiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

Located in northwest China, bordering with 8 counties; with a landmass three times bigger than *France*, ***XinJiang Uyghur Autonomous Region*** is the largest province in China. And is the “true geographic Central Asia”.

XinJiang possesses multiple cultures, landscapes... It is a photographer's as well as a real traveler's wonderland...

Beijing arrival, check  
Into our hotel...

And our Peking-duck  
welcoming dinner...



Northwestern China,  
XinJiang arrival.



Into the world's second largest desert –  
Taklimakan Desert, in southern XinJiang.





Life around the desert...





Of course, that's  
Martin on sand  
dune...

Our local guide and a group of local kids...



Villages inside the desert...



Townships inside  
the desert...



Xinjiang has some best fruits of the world...





We eat so well with tasty & healthy foods daily...



Famous Hetian jade & carpet making...





Locals are as curious about us as we are curious about them...





Everything is just so  
Natural...

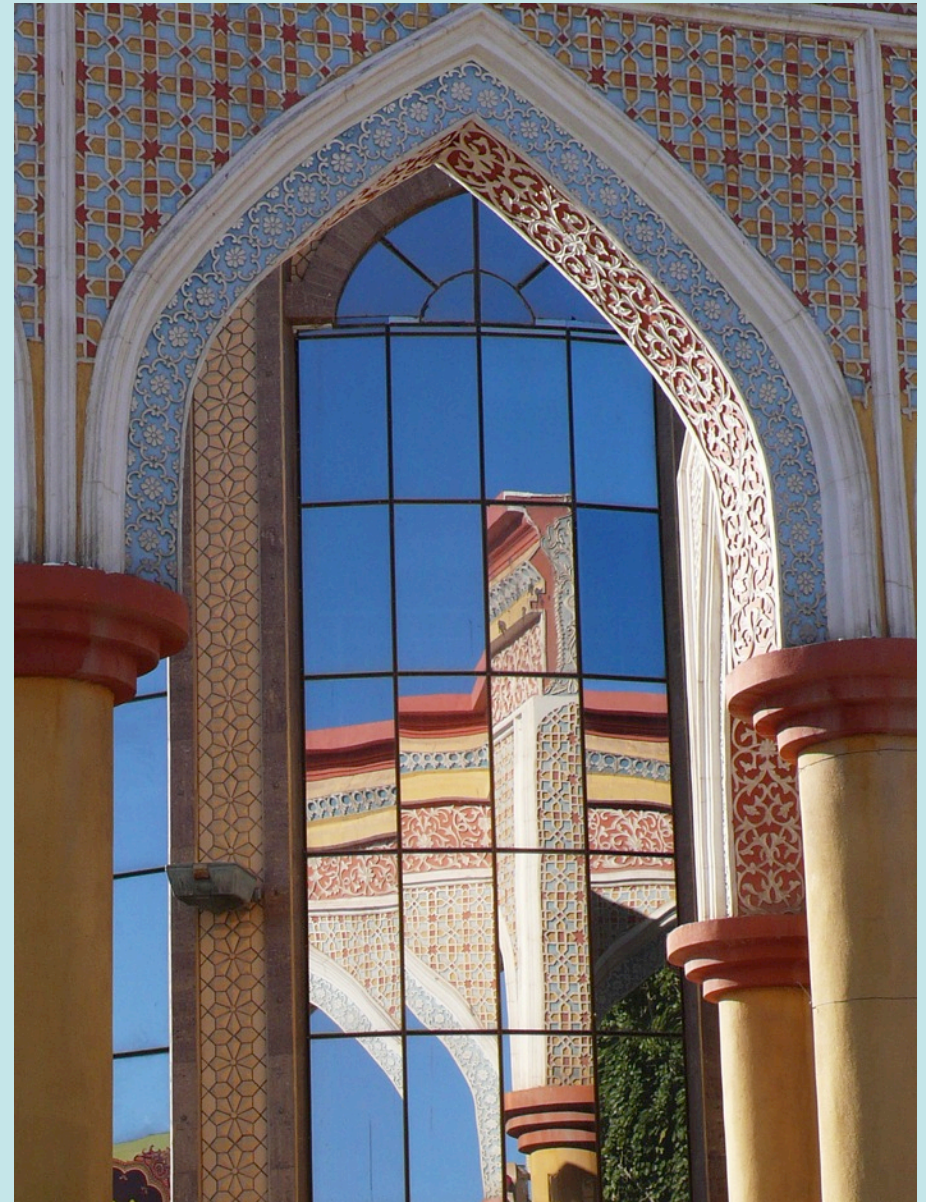




Into Kashgar...



City Kashgar...





Streets of daily life...





Back streets...





The moment prayer time comes...





Inside a market...





Ethnic flavor foods are wonderful...







Not far from Kyrgyzstan...

Towards to the Tashkurgan  
highland...





Local Kirghiz children...



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Valley villa, ancient castle and the 7,546m high peaks at far...

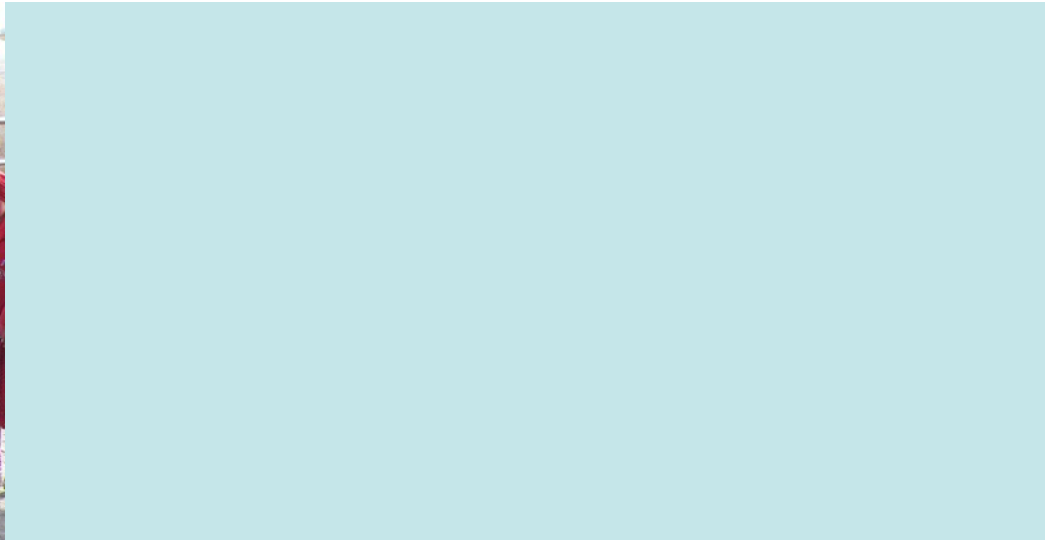
Here is not far from borders with Afghanistan, Pakistan & Tajikistan...





Local Tajiks...





Dash into a Tajik village...





In a Tajik home of another village...



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A Tajik wedding party just arrived...





Red dishes of wholesomely tasty wedding party foods...

A happy red driver of a red tractor...







Highland highway to Kunjirap  
Pass with Pakistan...





Beautifully tranquil...



Challengingly treacherous  
sometimes...



Back to Kashgar...



Local strolling...





An evening in a Kashigar best Islamic restaurant,  
for a famous roast whole-lamb dinner...





Xinjiang melons and dates are so good in taste and nutrition...

Our private coach driver is buying melons to treat us...



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Time for another good dinner...

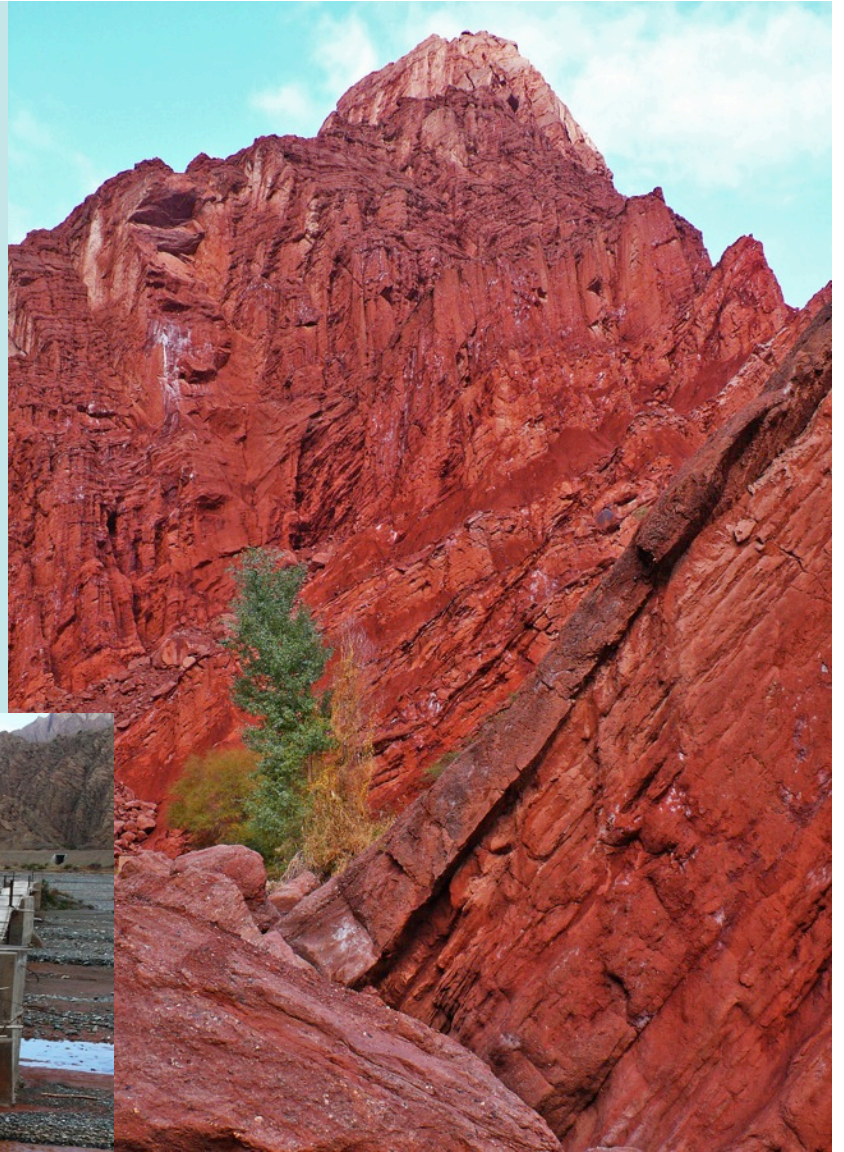




On route northern edge of the Taklimakan Desert on our way to complete the around the desert journey...

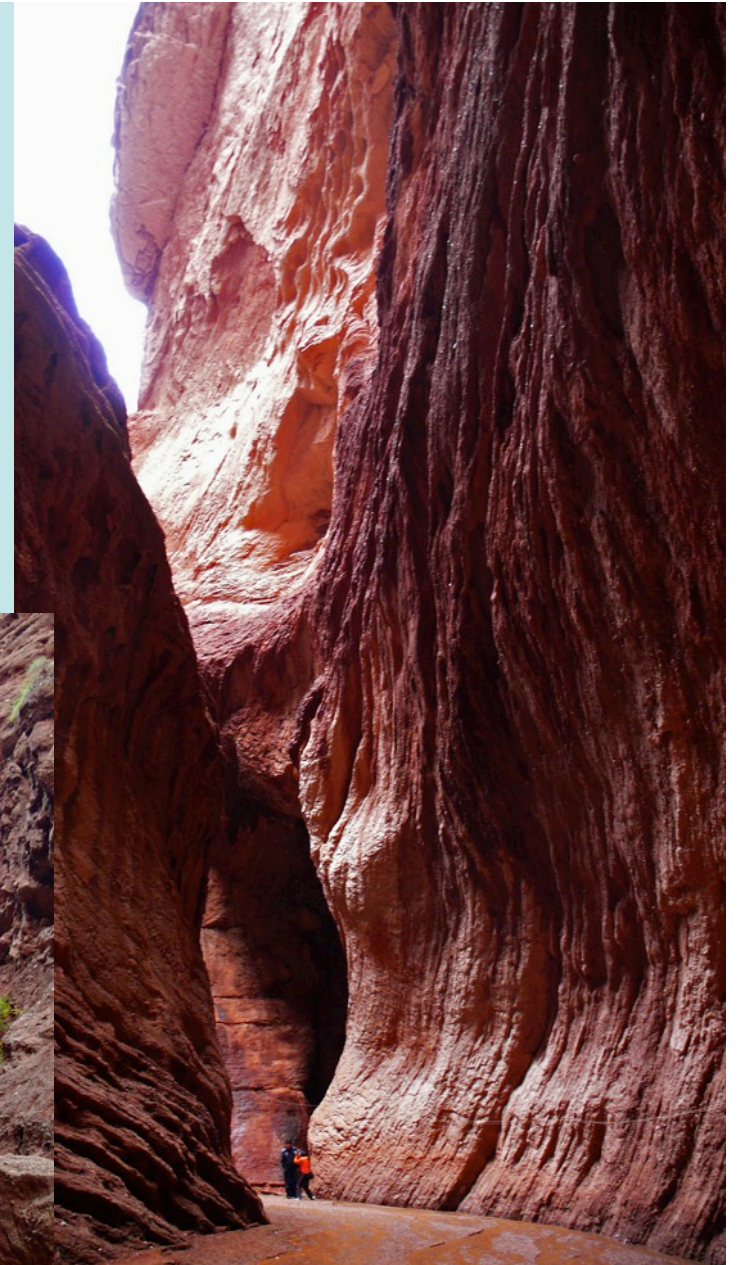
The historical Buddhist Grottos built in the 4<sup>th</sup> century...





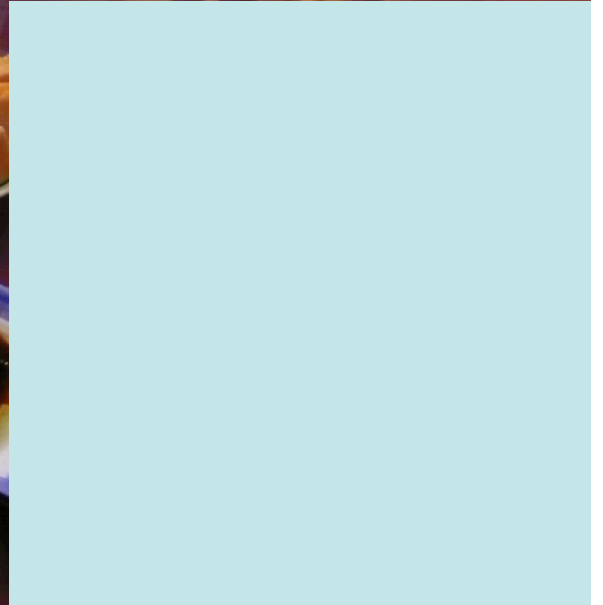
Unique landscapes...

Yes, that's Paul in red...





A famous Xinjiang “big plate chicken” dish – delicious...



Healthily wonderful tasting of good foods again...



Unique historical local  
Attractions...



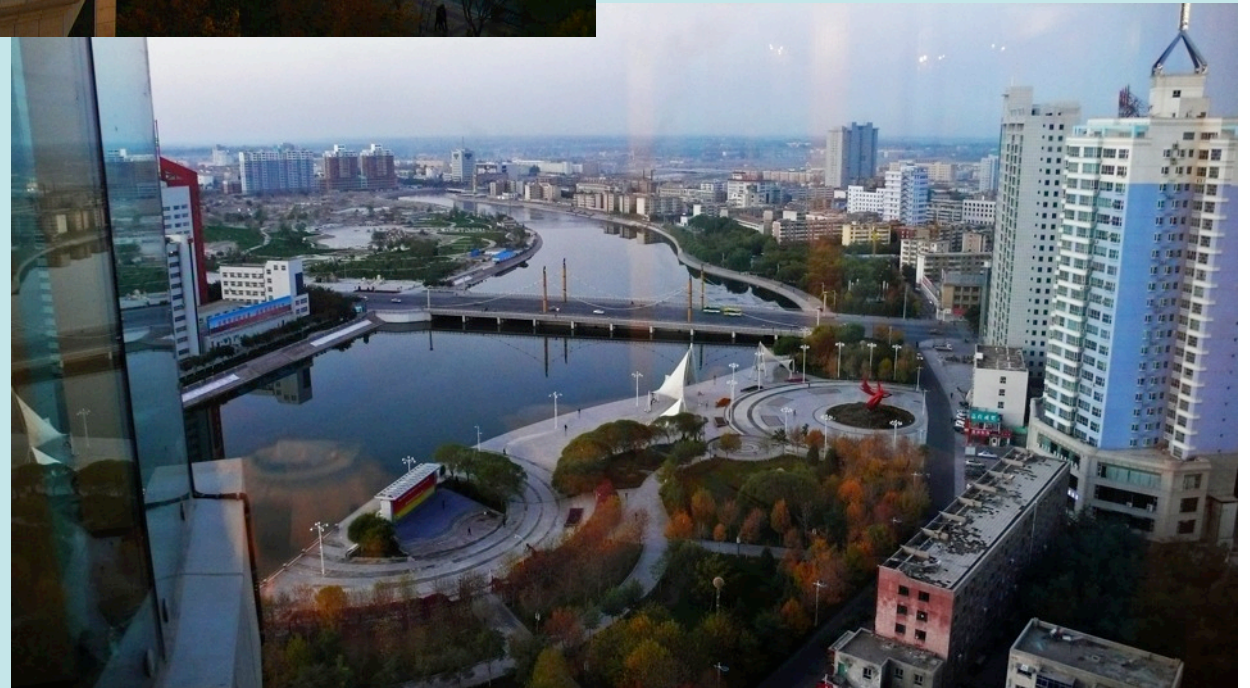


This is the timing we plan for –  
the golden desert...





Ku'erle – almost a paradise city in the desert... thanks to the abundant water from a big lake next to it...







Arrived Urumqi – the capital city of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region...  
A fascinatingly enjoyable around the Taklimakan Desert journey completed!

## *Epilog*

The snapshots in this Photo-diary are in no way able to represent the richness of culture and nature scenes we've seen, the fun and joy we've experienced during our group's 2010 October "Southern XinJiang" travel...

for Yau-Sun Tong's special "Western China Cultural/Photographic Series"  
Expeditions in the year of 2014  
*(see next page for description)*

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# Yau-Sun Tong' s Upcoming Special Western China Cultural/Photographic Expeditions

## April, 2014

An exclusive “**Southwestern China Cultural-Photographic Expedition**” ...

A unique itinerary & activities to some most fascinating places in the **most Northern** Guangxi and **Southeastern** Guizhou regions.

Another unconventional itinerary only offered by Yau-Sun Tong' s “Special Western China Cultural/Photographic Expedition Series”.

## May, 2014

“**Leica on Top of the World**” !

An true Cultural/Photographic special journey, to **Southwestern region** of Tibet Autonomous Region that's not yet been opened to outsiders...

A special program offered by Leica Camera Inc. for it's famous Leica Academe program. Itinerary especially designed and led by Yau-Sun Tong...