

It's a brief summary of our not long ago just completed "2012 Chinese New Year Season Cultural/Photographic Expedition"...

"All good things must come to an end"

Yes we did have a fantastic 20-days of a great expedition, from Southwest China's red-earth region to Northwest China's yellow-earth region, from the entry of Shanghai to the exit city of Beijing, to the remote countryside, from cultural events to local family visits, from photographic discussions to daily feasts of healthy foods... it was indeed a great experience...

See what some of us have to say about our journey:

As a traveler, you're always in danger of seeing things that are not indicative of local culture but rather a layer of manufactured tourist traps. This tour didn't do this and instead tested our boundaries of adaptability by giving us a true, unique and rare taste of many local cultures. From the food to the people, from the cultural exchanges to the little shopping you'll endure, expect a local experience all the way. You are not a tourist here. You are an explorer.

- Ella, Nova Scotia

Our cultural/photographic expedition to Southwest and Northwest China was altogether a wonderful experience. We were treated to a diverse and well planned itinerary, featuring delicious local cuisine, exposure to many minority peoples and cultures, and unmatched photographic opportunities. All in all the tour delivered a high-quality experience which no commercially oriented tour can possibly match. Looking forward to the next time!

- Tim, Ontario

Throughout the expedition we encountered cultural experiences that were lively, unique and educational; regional meals that were delicious (& enormous); skilled drivers and local guides that were knowledgeable, organized and courteous; and, photographic opportunities (both planned and spontaneous) that were highly varied and provided participants with a wide range of situations and subjects to capture. I had a fun time, learned a lot about photography, met terrific people, and, got to experience a unique part of China.... WOW!...Would I do it again?.....ABSOLUTELY!!!!

- Lesley, Manitoba

The 2012 Chinese New Year Expedition, like the two previous ones we have joined, took us to places which would be hard, and in some cases impossible, for an individual traveller to access. Normal commercial tours would not even attempt such a coverage. Dinner with the Yi Tiger Dancers and being toasted with their overproof 'wine' will be a highlight to add to the 'Top of the World' train ride to Lhasa and crashing a Tajik wedding in Tashkurgan which, to us, were the highlights from the previous trips. The transport, as usual, was roomy and comfortable, the local guides knowledgeable. Another excellent trip.

- Martin and Myrtle, British Columbia

Attached are a few snapshots of our wonderful journey:





Best regards

Yau-Sun Tong 湯友新
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

gallery & expedition news: <http://photoart.chebucto.org/photonews.html>

