

# Forbidden City & Mutianyu Great Wall

## Highlights

- Your knowledgeable local English-speaking private guide will meet you in the hotel lobby;
- An air-conditioned vehicle with a licensed driver will pick you up and take you to the Mutianyu Great Wall;
- We will arrange pre-booked tickets for the Forbidden City, helping you save time;
- Tickets for a round-trip cable car or toboggan ride are included.

## Itinerary Quick Look

We're happy to tailor this private tour of Beijing to match your interests. **Please note that the time frame is for reference only and may vary due to traffic conditions on the day of your tour.**

### Mutianyu Great Wall

Once you arrive at the **Mutianyu Great Wall**, you'll enjoy a more relaxed experience, with fewer crowds

compared to Badaling. This section offers a chance to marvel at the Great Wall's historic significance and the stunning surrounding landscapes. Take the Mutianyu cable car or Mutianyu chairlift up to the Wall, where you can hike through various sections, including ancient watchtowers and beacon towers, for about 1.5 hours. For a fun descent, you can opt for the exciting Mutianyu toboggan ride or take the ski lift/cable car back to the base.

Mutianyu is slightly more rugged and scenic, with over 96% of the area covered by trees and chestnut orchards, providing fresh air all year long, especially fragrant in the spring. After exploring, enjoy a meal at a local restaurant, sampling traditional Chinese cuisine.

### **Forbidden City**

In the afternoon, continue your tour to the **Forbidden City**, also known as the **Palace Museum**. Located in the heart of Beijing, the Forbidden City served as the royal palace for China's Ming and Qing dynasties. It boasts:

- **Rich history:** Constructed during the Ming Dynasty, it has witnessed centuries of China's imperial rise and fall.
- **Grand scale:** Covering a vast area, with numerous imperial palaces and buildings.
- **Architectural brilliance:** Showcasing the finest ancient Chinese craftsmanship and design.
- **Royal atmosphere:** Home to the emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties, where they governed and held court.
- **Cultural treasures:** Housing a vast collection of Chinese cultural relics and priceless artworks.

Key features include the **Hall of Supreme Harmony, Hall of Central Harmony, and Hall of Preserving Harmony** where major state ceremonies were held. The private residences of the emperor and empress can be found in the **Palace of Heavenly Purity, Hall of Union and Peace, and Palace of Earthly Tranquility.**

The architectural symmetry along the central axis, the richly carved beams, and painted rafters all highlight the Forbidden City's royal grandeur. The Forbidden City is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a top spot for anyone visiting Beijing. It's an incredible mix of history, culture, and architecture, drawing in tourists from all over the world.

### **Inclusions**

- Private English speaking tour guide
- An air-conditioned vehicle with a private licensed driver
- Forbidden City admission tickets
- Cable car or toboggan ride at Mutianyu Great Wall
- Private Guide Lobby Meetup

### **Exclusions**

- Meals: Meals are excluded. Your guide will make recommendations for you, if required.
- Personal expenses
- Overtime service fee

## **Travel Tips:**

1. It's recommended to arrive at the hotel lobby on time to help you avoid the crowds and make the most of your day.
2. In the private tour, the guide can meet you in the hotel lobby, and an air-conditioned vehicle with a licensed driver will pick you up.
3. If tickets or tours are not purchased at least 7 days in advance, you will need to buy your own ticket and wait in line.
4. Please remember to bring your passport, as it is required for entry into certain attractions.
5. Wear comfortable walking shoes, as some parts of the tour involve moderate walking.
6. The Forbidden City is closed to the public on Mondays.
7. It's a good idea to have some local currency (CNY) for small purchases, as not all places accept international credit cards.