

Private trip: The Silver Pagodas

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The Silver Pagodas.

Summary

This document contains a description of your hike on October 26, 2019. It covers the area we're going to, the services we provide, as well as the price.

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Hiking at the Silver Pagodas



The pagodas in winter.

Hiking trail and planned itinerary

The hike starts at the car park below the pagoda site.

From the car park, it's an easy 15-minute walk up to the pagodas.

Participants will gather at the pagodas for a group photo before beginning the hike.

Hike options:

1. An easy exploration of the Pagodas, Sun-Facing Cave, and nunnery ruins (reasonably possible for 4-years-old and up)
2. A moderately-difficult hike that follows the stairs up Silver Mountain to reach the Bell Pavilion (Good for bigger kids)
3. A faster-paced hike that continues past the Bell Pavilion to the 720m peak of Silver Mountain (45-60 minutes for those capable of a faster pace)

All hike options return to the pagoda site before continuing to the finish, with an easy walk through hills and fields and out to the main road to finish.

Options 2 and 3 go up and down the same way, and participants may choose to hike part of the way up before returning back down.

Turn-around times will be set for hike options 1 and 2 to make sure everybody finishes at roughly the same time.



More about the Silver Pagodas

The Silver Pagodas are a set of five large pagodas that sit on a temple site that dates back to the Tang Dynasty (618–907 AD). The pagodas were built in the 1400's, and below each of the pagodas are the interred remains of an important monk.

The silver bells of the pagodas used to ring in the breeze, and are the source of the name of this peaceful spot. The foundations of the temples remain, but the structures of the temples are long gone, burned during war.

Itinerary and timing

- 08:00 - Depart from BSB Sanlitun
- 08:30 - Depart from ISB Shunyi
- 09:30 - Begin the walk up to the pagodas
- 10:00 - Group photo at the pagodas
- 10:30 - Start the hike options
- 13:00 - Everyone is back at the pagodas
- 13:30 - Start walking out to the finish
- 14:30 - Finish the hike
- 14:45 - Begin driving back
- 16:00 - ETA at ISB Shunyi
- 16:30 - ETA at BSB Sanlitun

Travel and hike times are approximate, and depend on traffic and the pace at which you hike.

Notes

Bathroom break: There isn't any good place to stop for a toilet break on the way to the hike. We'll use the bathroom facilities at the Silver Pagodas car park, which are clean and of moderate size. On the way back we'll be able to use a large service area on the Jingcheng Expressway.

Time constraints: if we run out of time to complete the full hike, we can skip the last part of the hike and finish at the pagodas

Smokefree activity

We request that you refrain from smoking while we're out on the trail.

Your guides for the trip

Our professional, knowledgeable and experienced guides are either native speakers or fluent in both English and Mandarin. These guides will be responsible for the overall organisation of the hike and responding to any questions you might have. They will carry handheld radios to communicate with each other as well as basic first aid kits to attend to any minor injuries.

Beijing Hikers will supply...

- Round-trip transport in private bus from BSB Sanlitun and ISB Shunyi
- Beijing Hikers staff hiking guides
- Hiking poles available on request
- Bottled mineral water (four bottles per person)
- A Snickers bar
- Entry tickets for the Silver Pagodas
- Handout with activity guidelines and activity sheet

You need to bring...

- Basic hiking gear
- Strong, sturdy footwear with good grip
- Comfortable layers of clothing (dress warmly for winter)
- Waterproof jacket or poncho
- Sun protection: hat, long-sleeved shirt, suncream
- Toilet paper and wet wipes
- A plastic bag to carry away any of your used tissues or banana peels.

Pricing and booking

Price

No. of participants	Price per person
45–75	250 RMB
More than 75	200 RMB

Payment and refund schedule, key dates

October 18	How many boarding at ISB How many boarding at BSB Tentative booking of buses, guides
October 23	AQI check and cancellation deadline Full payment for the hike is made Confirm number of participants
October 26	Hike day

Payment should be received by Beijing Hikers no later than October 23. Payment should be made as a lump sum by the Boy Scouts, rather than by individual participants.

Payment can be made by bank transfer to our company bank account, or by Alipay or Wechat.

Refunds, individual cancellations

- If you cancel the entire event after October 23 but before 6pm on October 25, a cancellation fee will be charged that covers Beijing Hikers' set up costs, deposits on buses, and a guide stipend.
- If individual participants cancel their participation after October 23 but before 6pm on October 25, there will be a cancellation fee of 50 RMB per person.
- If you cancel the entire event after 6pm on October 25 or on the day of the hike, we can only refund the ticket costs.
- If individual participants cancel their participation after 6pm on October 25 or on the day of the hike, we can only refund the ticket costs.

Receipts and fapiao

Official tax receipts can be printed. We'll need to add the tax of 3% to the cost of the hike.

Cancellation, Risk Management, Activity Waiver

Cancellation

We are happy to hike in any weather, but if weather conditions are considered dangerous (thunderstorms, extreme heat), the activity may be cancelled or changed by Beijing Hikers. Thunderstorms are particularly dangerous, as the Great Wall is often built on the highest ridge in the area. If you decide to cancel, you will be responsible for any costs relating to the activity that have already been incurred by Beijing Hikers.

Risk Management

It is assumed that all participants have personal and/or accident insurance.

Hiking in and of its nature is an activity that may have some inherent dangers. While your safety is of the utmost importance to us, Beijing Hikers is not responsible for any injuries or accidents that may occur on the bus or during the hike. Before hiking with us, we will ask you to sign a waiver. If desired, insurance can be arranged. Please contact us at least 2 days prior to the hike if you wish to arrange for insurance.

Waiver and release

We'll ask all participants to sign our waiver, a prerequisite for participation. Read the [long version of our waiver on our website](#).