

SILK ROAD SLIDE SHOW – Steven Andrew Martin

SILK ROAD / SILK ROUTE / ROAD OF BUDDHISM / JOURNEY TO THE WEST

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XIAN

ANCIENT CAPITAL OF CHINA (Qin & Tang Dynasties) & Start of the Silk Road

- As a Trade Route – Bell Tower 西安钟楼
- As a Road of Religion – Big Goose Pagoda 大雁塔

JIAUGYUAN FORT (1372) 嘉峪關

WESTERN END OF GREAT WALL OF CHINA

- “Strongest Fort Under Heaven”

DUNHUANG 燉煌

ANCIENT GROTTOES AND BUDDHIST ART

- Dunhuang-ology

TURPAN

ANCIENT BUDDHIST CITIES AND SITES

- Geochang Ruins, Jiaohoe Ruins, Bezik Grottos & Flaming Mountain
- Today – The land of the Uygur people and Islam

URUMUCHI

MODERN CAPITAL OF XINGJIANG PROVINCE (Western China)

- Tien Shan (The Heavenly Mountains)
- Urumqi (“Good Pasture”)

KASHGAR 喀什 ANCIENT KINGDOM OF KASHGARIA

- Ancient crossroad of the Silk Route (China’s Western border)
- World’s oldest continuous trade bazaar (The Sunday Bazaar)



GREAT TRAVELERS WHO FOLLOWED THIS ROUTE, EXPERIENCING THE SAME NATURAL WONDERS

- **138 B.C. (Han Dynasty) Zang Qain 張騫** sent by the emperor with 99 men to explore the western regions
- **399 (Eastern Jin Dynasty) Fa Xian 法顯** went to India (the first Chinese monk to make the round trip).
- **629 (Tang Dynasty) Xuán Zàng 玄奘** travelled on a 16-year journey to India and back to study Buddhism, surviving countless perils of rivers, mountains, and dangers. Featured in “Journey to the West”
- **1269 (Yuan Dynasty) Marco Polo**, the Christian merchant, travelled from the Venetian Republic in Europe on a 24-year 15,000 mile return journey to China.
- **The Monkey King** of the legendary fiction “Journey to the West” Xī Yóu Jì 西遊記 (written in Ming Dynasty)

