



古韵龟兹·丝路库车  
The Ancient Silk Road  
Kingdom of Kucha

*A Photo Exhibition of the Charm of Xinjiang*

大美新疆摄影展



**Hosted by:**  
**Embassy of P.R. China in the UK**  
**Kucha Municipal People's Government,**  
**Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, China**

**Presented by:**  
**China National Tourist Office London**

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**Network of International Culturalink Entities**

## 前言

库车位于新疆维吾尔自治区中西部，天山中段南麓，塔里木盆地北缘，古称“龟兹”，历史上曾是联系和沟通亚欧大陆的桥梁，是古代西域的政治经济文化中心，是世界四大文明的唯一交汇地，素有“西域乐都”“歌舞之乡”的美誉，是举世闻名的龟兹文化发祥地，是古丝绸之路上一颗璀璨的明珠。雄伟的克孜尔尕哈烽燧，被誉为屹立千年的红色哨卡；壮观的苏巴什古城，大唐高僧玄奘曾在此讲经数月；举世闻名的克孜尔石窟比敦煌莫高窟还早了三百年；这些古迹已被列入《世界文化遗产名录》。

库车是中国古代三大佛经翻译家之一鸠摩罗什和音乐大师苏祇婆的故乡，也是非物质文化遗产萨玛尔舞和十二木卡姆的发源地，“羌笛陇头吟，胡舞龟兹曲”就是汉唐时期龟兹乐舞风靡中原大地的真实写照。这里有气势磅礴的“天山神秘大峡谷”；有鬼斧神工的雅丹地貌“红山石林”；有镶嵌在天山上的宝石“大小龙池”；有被誉为“生命之魂”的胡杨林；有“白色蜂蜜”之称的库车小白杏，被评为“中国白杏之乡”。这里还是国家“西气东输”的主气源地，塔里木石油天然气开发的重要基地，是连接新疆南北的交通枢纽和大动脉，是南疆商贸物流中心和旅游集散中心，是中国最具投资潜力中小城市之一。

穿越千年时光，感受文化融合，亲爱的朋友们，热情好客的库车欢迎您！

## Preface

Kucha is located in the centre-west of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, at the southern base of the middle section of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, and on the northern edge of the Tarim Basin. It was the political, economic and cultural centre of the ancient Western Regions, as well as the only place where the four great civilizations of the world converged. It bears the reputation of the “Entertainment Capital of the Western Regions”, the “Home of Song and Dance”, the birthplace of world-renowned Kucha culture, and a stunning gem of the ancient Silk Road. Several of its monuments are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List: the majestic Kizil Gaha Beacon Tower, a “red sentry-post” that has stood for thousands of years; the magnificent temple complex of Subashi, where the great Tang monk Xuanzang once lectured for several months; and the world-famous Kizil Cave, which is three hundred years older than the Mogao Caves of Dunhuang.

Kucha is the hometown of Kumārajīva, one of the three major translators of Buddhist scripture in ancient China and a maestro of music, Sujup. It is also the birthplace of two forms of intangible cultural heritage: the Samar Dances and the Twelve Muqams (types of melodies). The famous line of poetry “The Qiang flute resounds in Longtou, playing the barbarian dance songs of Kucha” is testament to the popularity of Kucha’s music throughout the Central Plains during the Han and Tang dynasties. This city boasts a number of majestic sights: the mysterious Grand Canyon of Tianshan; the yardang of the Red Stone Forest that were beautifully crafted by the forces of nature; the Big and Small Longchi Ponds, embedded like gems in the Tianshan Mountain Ranges; a poplar grove known to locals as “the essence of life”; as well as a kind of apricot whose honey-like sweetness is so renowned that Kucha is at times referred to as the “hometown of China’s little white apricot”. Kucha is also the main gas source of the country’s “West-to-East Gas Pipeline”; an important base for the development of Tarim oil and gas; a transportation hub connecting northern and southern Xinjiang; as well as southern Xinjiang’s main trade and logistics centre and tourist transportation point. It is one of the small to mid-sized cities in China with the greatest potential for investment. Travel over one thousand years back in time and appreciate the fusion of cultures in the warm and welcoming city of Kucha!



## ◀— 第一篇章 —▶

### 库车市苏巴什佛寺遗址

——目前新疆现存规模最大的佛寺遗址

苏巴什佛寺，又名“昭怙厘大寺”“雀离大寺”，是目前新疆现存规模最大的佛寺遗址，位于库车市东北20公里却勒塔格山南麓，分东西两寺，隔库车河相望。约建于公元3世纪，鼎盛于公元6世纪至公元10世纪。唐玄奘西行取经过龟兹时，依然“佛像庄饰，殆越人工”。7世纪中叶（公元658年），唐安西都护府移设龟兹后，内地高僧云集，佛事兴隆。晚唐（公元9世纪）渐趋衰落，13至14世纪被废弃。佛寺东寺由佛堂、僧房、北、中、南三塔组成；西寺建筑遗址较多，以北、中、南三塔和南部寺院为主。该佛寺遗址考古成果颇丰，先后经考古发掘出土有陶器残片、铜钱、铁器、木简、石器、经卷等。1903年，日本的大谷瑞探险队到库车，在苏巴什佛寺遗址中挖掘出了一个木质彩绘有翼童子舍利盒，盒盖、盒身绘有古代龟兹地区非常流行、十分生动的“苏幕遮”乐舞图。1978年在西寺中塔基底发掘清理了一座墓葬，有女人尸骨及随葬品，现藏于库车博物馆。2014年6月22日，在卡塔尔多哈召开的联合国教科文组织第38届世界遗产委员会会议上，苏巴什佛寺遗址作为中国、哈萨克斯坦和吉尔吉斯斯坦三国联合申遗的“丝绸之路：长安-天山廊道的路网”中的一处遗址点成功列入《世界遗产名录》。

## ◀— Part 1 —▶

### The Ruins of Subashi Temple in Kucha City

— The Largest Extant Buddhist Temple Ruins in Xinjiang

The Subashi Buddhist Temple, also known as the “Great Cakra Temple”, is the largest group of Buddhist temple ruins in Xinjiang. It is located at the southern foot of the Queletag Mountains, about 20 km to the northeast of Kucha. It comprises two complexes, one east and one west, that look at one another across the Kucha River. Built around the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century AD, it flourished from the 6<sup>th</sup> Century to the 10<sup>th</sup> Century. When Xuanzang traveled westward past the ancient kingdom of Kucha, he noted that the temple was still “flanked with statues of Buddha, boasting almost superhuman craftsmanship.” In the mid-7<sup>th</sup> Century (AD 658), after the Protectorate General to Pacify the West was re-stationed in Kucha, the kingdom became a gathering point for senior monks, in turn contributing to the development of Buddhist culture there. In the late Tang Dynasty (9<sup>th</sup> Century AD), use of the temple began to gradually decline; it was eventually abandoned by the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> Century. The eastern complex is composed of a Buddhist temple, the monks’ living quarters, as well as three towers: northern, central and southern. There are more architectural ruins in the western complex. It too has northern, central and southern towers, as well as a temple to the south. Archaeological excavations at the Subashi Temple ruins have been fruitful, unearthing pottery, copper coins, iron ware, wooden slabs, stone wares, and scriptures. In 1903, Japanese Buddhist abbot Ōtani Kōzui led a team of explorers to Kucha. During their expedition, they excavated a wooden box featuring a painted image of a winged boy in the ruins of the Subashi Buddhist Temple. The box and its lid also represent the vivacious “Sumuzhe” songs and dances, which were extremely popular in the ancient kingdom of Kucha. In 1978, a tomb was excavated at the base of the middle tower of the western complex. Inside, archaeologists discovered women’s bones and grave goods, which are now stored in the Kucha Museum. On June 22, 2014, at the 38<sup>th</sup> UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting in Doha, Qatar, the Subashi Temple Ruins were successfully incorporated into the World Heritage List as part of the “Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang’an-Tianshan Corridor”, having been nominated by China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.



佛音袅袅传千古

中国新疆库车市苏巴什佛寺遗址

**After Thousands of Years, the Words of Buddhism Resound as Clearly as Ever**

Ruins of Subashi Buddhist Temple in Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



万籁俱寂

中国新疆库车市苏巴什佛寺遗址

**Silence Reigns Supreme**

Ruins of Subashi Buddhist Temple in Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## ◀— 第二篇章 —▶

### 克孜尔尕哈烽燧

——丝绸之路最古老的烽燧遗址

克孜尔尕哈烽燧位于库车市西北10公里处，与克孜尔尕哈石窟仅相距千米，始建于汉宣帝年间（公元前1世纪），即西域都护府移设乌垒之后，夜间点火为烽，白天放烟为燧，是汉代的军事报警设施，也是汉唐时期长城防御体系中的一个重要组成部分。尕哈烽燧平面呈长方形，由基底向上逐渐缩收呈梯形，高约13.5米，夯土结构，上建望楼，木栅遗迹尚存。它是目前古丝绸之路中道上年代最早、保存最完好的一个烽燧遗址。2014年6月22日，在卡塔尔多哈召开的联合国教科文组织第38届世界遗产委员会会议上，克孜尔尕哈烽燧作为中国、哈萨克斯坦和吉尔吉斯斯坦三国联合申遗的“丝绸之路：长安-天山廊道的路网”中的一处遗址点成功列入《世界遗产名录》。

## ◀— Part 2 —▶

### Kizil Gaha Beacon Tower

— The Oldest Beacon Tower Ruins on the Silk Road

The Kizil Gaha Beacon is located 10 km northwest of Kucha City, only a few kilometres away from the Kizil Caves. It was built during the reign of Emperor Xuan of Han (1<sup>st</sup> Century BC), after the Protectorate of the Western Regions was re-stationed in the ancient city of Wulei. It acted as a military alarm in the Han Dynasty and an important part of the Great Wall defence system during the Han and Tang Dynasties. The presence of fire at night or smoke in the day atop the tower indicated approaching enemy battalions. From head-on, the Kizil Gaha Beacon resembles an oblong that gradually tapers from the base to the top to form a trapezoid shape. It has a total height of 13.5 m and is made of rammed earth. Atop is a watch tower; remains of a wooden palisade can still be found. It is the oldest and best-preserved military beacon tower along the middle segment of the ancient Silk Road. On June 22, 2014, at the 38<sup>th</sup> UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting in Doha, Qatar, the Kizil Gaha Beacon Tower was successfully inscribed into the World Heritage List as part of the “Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang’an-Tianshan Corridor” nominated by China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.



历史的见证

中国新疆库车市克孜尔哈烽燧

**Withstanding the Sands of Time**

Kizil Gaha Beacon Tower, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





赤岸苍茫浮千古

中国新疆库车市克孜尔尕哈烽燧

**Rolling Banks of Ancient Red Earth**

Kizil Gaha Beacon Tower, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## 第三篇章

### 库车市天山神秘大峡谷

——古丝绸之路黄金旅游线上的一颗璀璨明珠

天山神秘大峡谷地处天山山脉南麓、库车市以北64公里的山区，集人间峡谷之妙，兼天山奇景之长，蕴万古之灵气；谷底蜿蜒曲折，峰回路转；步步有景，举目成趣；泉水叮咚，寒暑不侵，游人称绝。整个峡谷犹如一条尾震天山头、口饮库车河、曲身九十九的巨龙劈山而卧，呼风唤雨，神秘莫测。更令人称奇的是，距谷口1400米深处，高约35米的悬壁上，有一始建于公元6世纪的千佛洞遗址，就文字记载和绘画艺术而言，在古西域地区至今已发现的300多座佛教石窟中绝无仅有，实属罕见。

## Part 3

### The Mysterious Grand Canyon of Kucha's Tianshan Mountain Ranges

— A Stunning Gem on the Golden Tourist Line of the Ancient Silk Road

The Tianshan Mysterious Grand Canyon is located at the southern foothills of the Tianshan Mountains, 64 km north of Kucha. At this tourist destination, one can simultaneously wonder at the depths of the canyon and the breadth of the mountain ranges. It has a historic atmosphere — one can sense the souls that lingered here in ancient times. At the bottom of the canyon, the terrain rises and falls like a turbulent sea. The path back to the peak winds in all directions, and everywhere one looks is more beauty to behold. The valley is clement in winter and summer; water can be heard trickling from the spring at all times of the year. The whole gorge resembles an enormous dragon lying down, sipping from the Kucha River, crashing its tail down upon the Tianshan mountaintops, and controlling the elements with its breath. This site exudes a powerful sense of mystery. What's even more awe-inspiring is that, on a cliff about 35 m high and 1400 m from the mouth of the canyon, one can find the ruins of the Thousand Buddhas Cave from the 6<sup>th</sup> Century. This cave stands out from the other 300 Buddhist grottoes discovered in the ancient Western Regions in terms of its textual records and paintings.

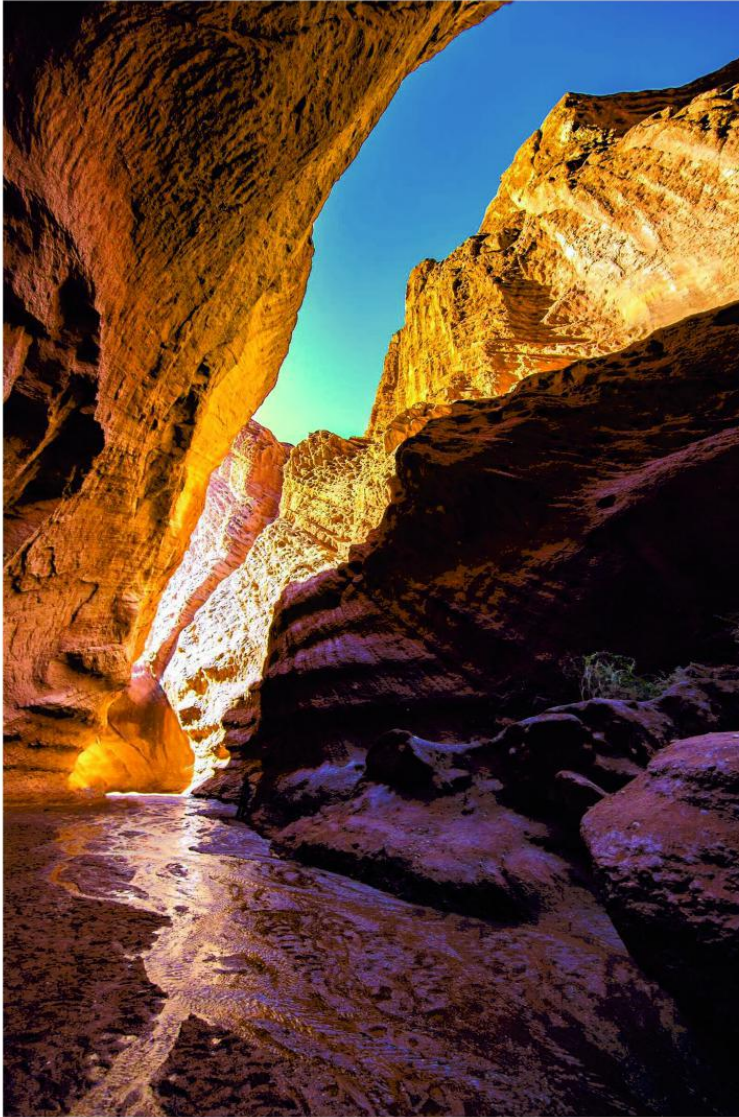


苍穹

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**The Vast Heavens**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



### 潺潺流水

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

### Gurgling Water

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges,  
Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



飞翔

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**Soaring**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



**俯瞰神秘大峡谷**

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**Overlooking the Mysterious Canyon**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



## 红山石林

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

## A Forest of Red Stone

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



静谧的城堡

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**Tranquil "Castle"**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





眺望者

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**Peering Down**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

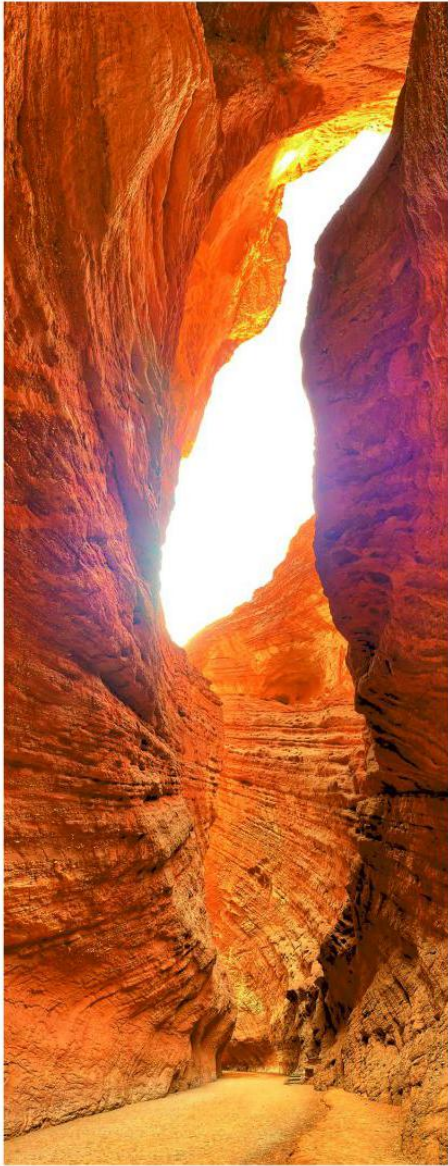


望苍穹

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**Contemplating the Vast Heavens**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



希 望

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**Hope**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges,  
Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

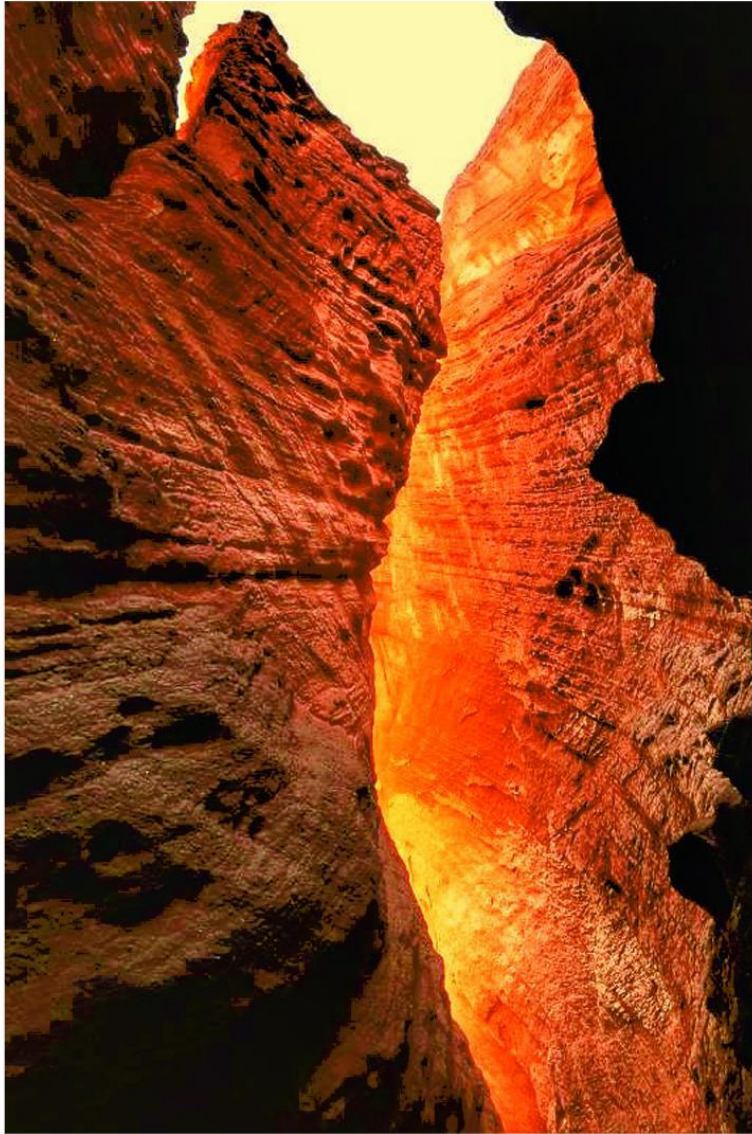


### 峡谷漫步

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

### A Stroll Through the Gorge

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



### 峡谷奇光

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

### Dazzling Sights

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges,  
Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



走向神秘

中国新疆库车市天山神秘大峡谷

**Towards Mystery**

The Mysterious Grand Canyon of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## ◀— 第四篇章 —▶

### 库车市雅丹地貌

——天山深处永不熄灭的火焰

从库车出发向北，一路上都是叠嶂起伏的自然风光，穿过天工神韵的雅丹地貌、直刺云霄的盐水沟风景区，66公里的路程处处让你惊叹不已，在众多的山峦中，红山石林赤红的山体更是令人眼前陡然一亮。山体呈红色，原海底的岩石由于造山运动而形成的直立的单斜岩石组成了层层叠叠的“石林”，分外壮观，与附近不同色彩的山体错落有致，交相辉映，构成一处天山奇观。一年四季都有诸多国内外的摄影爱好者、画家来这里采风、创作。

## ◀— Part 4 —▶

### The Yardang Landforms of Kucha

— An Inextinguishable Flame at the Depths of the Mountain Ranges

On the road northward from Kucha, one's gaze is greeted by never-ending natural scenery. On a 66 km drive, you will gasp in awe at the yardang formations of the Saltwater Ditch Scenic Area that pierce the heavens. However, among these towering shapes, the most eye-catching are no doubt the undulating rock faces of the Red Stone Forest. These slanted vermillion rocks rose out of the ground to form an overlapping stone forest as a result of the movement of tectonic plates. They are interspersed with other mountain bodies of different colours, creating a majestic sight to behold. Photography enthusiasts and painters from China and abroad come here all year round to create art.



层峦叠嶂

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Undulating Ranges**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





**崇山峻岭**

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Precipitous Peaks**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



大地的造化

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Miraculous Creation**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



俯瞰库车河

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Looking Down upon Kucha River**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



俯瞰库车河

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Looking Down upon Kucha River**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



红山石林

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**A Forest of Red Stone**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



红山石林

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**A Forest of Red Stone**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



千峰沐雪

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Snow-Capped Summits**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



山映旭日别样红

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Sunset Reflecting off the Mountainside**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





幸福之路

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Road to Happiness**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



壮美山川

中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

**Magnificent Mountains and Rivers**

Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## 第五篇章

### 独库公路（库车段）

——纵贯天山脊梁的景观大道

独库公路，北起独山子南至库车，是217国道的早期形态，纵贯天山南北，全长561公里，过半以上地段横亘崇山峻岭、穿越深川峡谷，连接了众多少数民族聚居区，被《中国国家地理》评选为“纵贯天山脊梁的景观大道”。这是一条绝对让人难忘的公路，它横贯天山，一路蜿蜒，一路险峻，一路惊艳；这条路，它凝聚了太多的人类精神和自然内涵，数万人历经艰险十年筑就；这是一条英雄之路，它汇聚了一切令人震撼的新疆美景。

在独库公路库车段，人们还将欣赏到壮丽的克孜利亚山地景观，这里的红山石林蔚为壮观。库车河一直伴随在公路一侧，当公路通过天山南麓的“火焰地带”后，取而代之的是陡峭的岩壁，茵茵的绿草，满树激情盛开着黄色花儿的荆棘，以及零零落落的松树。山谷中弥漫着野花芳香，高耸入云的山峰上驻留着寒气逼人的白雪。路边的峭壁如刀劈一般，相对高度差在百米以上。

## Part 5

### Duku Highway (Kucha Section)

— A Scenic Route Down the Backbone of the Tianshan Ranges

The Duku Highway that runs from Dushanzi in the north to Kucha in the south, is the earliest incarnation of National Highway 217. More than half of the 561 km-long highway spans the precipitous peaks of the Tianshan ranges and crosses the deep canyon, linking many settlements of ethnic minorities along the way. It was appraised by China National Geographic as “a scenic route down the backbone of the Tianshan ranges”. This absolutely unforgettable highway that winds through the mountains is as awe-inspiring as it is steep. Not only does it abound in natural beauty — it is also a monument to human determination, crystallizing a decade of hardships on the part of tens and thousands of workers. This is a majestic road that brings together all the stunning sights that Xinjiang has to offer.

In the Kucha section of Duku Highway, people can also take in the magnificent landscape of the Keziliya Mountain, with its breathtaking red stone forest. The highway continually snakes down one side of the Kucha River until the “flame zone” on the southern foot of the Tianshan Mountains. There, the river gives way to steep rock walls, lush green grass, violent profusions of golden blossoms and sparse pine trees. The valley is filled with the fragrance of wild flowers, while its towering peaks are capped with snow. The cliffs on either side of the road are like blades; their height differs by a margin of more than 100 m.



天 梯

中国新疆库车市独库公路

**Heavenly Stairway**

Duku Highway, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



风光不与四时同

中国新疆库车市独库公路

**Scenery that Differs from One Season to the Next**

Duku Highway, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



光 影

中国新疆库车市独库公路

**Light and Shadows**

Duku Highway, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



牛羊遍地贺丰年

中国新疆库车市独库公路

**Cattle and Sheep Celebrate the Harvest**

Duku Highway, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



## 盘山公路

中国新疆库车市独库公路

## Winding Mountain Roads

Duku Highway, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





世外桃源

中国新疆库车市独库公路

**A Heaven of Peace**

Duku Highway, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## ◀— 第六篇章 —▶

### 库车市大小龙池景区

——镶嵌在天山中的宝石

库车市北部144公里处的群山环抱之中，有两个高山积雪融化而成的自然湖泊，俗称大龙池、小龙池，这里海拔2300米，紧邻217国道，景色十分秀丽。

龙池水面面积约2平方公里，山上白雪皑皑，终年不化，雪山上生长着名贵中药材——雪莲。山下青杉翠柏、绿草如茵、泉水叮咚、牛羊成群，牧民的毡房点缀其间，偶尔还能看到雪鸡、黄羊和雪豹。湖东地势平坦、芳草萋萋、湖水清碧、雪峰倒影，景色十分壮观，是夏季旅游避暑胜地。游人在山坡松林之中晨可欣赏天边的早霞和染红的湖水，中午、黄昏能辨出湖水由浅蓝变成深蓝色。如果在晴天或夜晚，山坡雾绕云缠，云丝过处，还落下一场毛毛雨，云丝一过，却又是晴空。

住在草原的毡房里吃烤肉、喝酸奶、听民歌、赏美景，你会感觉到这里就是真正的人间天堂。

## ◀— Part 6 —▶

### The Big and Small Longchi Ponds Scenic Area

— Gems Embedded in the Tianshan Ranges

Encircled by mountains 144 km north of Kucha City, there are two natural lakes made of melting alpine snow, commonly known as the Big and Small Longchi Ponds. Located at 2300 m above sea level, close to National Highway 217, they offer tremendous views.

The Longchi Ponds have a combined aquatic surface area of approximately 2 km<sup>2</sup>. The mountaintops are covered year round in a thick blanket of snow and are home to a prized ingredient in traditional Chinese medicine: the snow lotus. At the foot of the mountain are resplendent cedars and cypresses, lush grass, trickling spring water, as well as herds of cattle and sheep. Shepherds' dwellings dot the landscape, and one can occasionally spot snow chickens, Mongolian gazelle and snow leopards. The eastern part of the pond is flat, with luxuriant grass on its banks and clear blue water that reflects the snowy peaks. This spectacular scenery makes it a popular resort for tourism in the summer. At the crack of dawn, the hillside pine forest is swathed in warm pastel hues and the water of the lake is dyed red. As day shifts to night, the colour of the water transforms again — this time, from azure to deep blue. At times the hills are enveloped in fog and clouds that cast a light drizzle, and then they part, revealing a bright blue sky.

Eating barbecued meat, drinking yoghurt, listening to folk songs, and enjoying the beautiful scenery from a yurt on the grasslands, visitors may come to the conclusion that this is heaven on earth.



水天一色

中国新疆库车市大小龙池景区

**Sky and Water of the Same Shade of Blue**

Scenic Area of the Big and Small Longchi Ponds, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



水墨龙池

中国新疆库车市大小龙池景区

**Dark Water Like an Inkwell**

Scenic Area of the Big and Small Longchi Ponds, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



美景如画

中国新疆库车市大小龙池景区

**Painting with No Frames**

Scenic Area of the Big and Small Longchi Ponds, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



## 湖光山色

中国新疆库车市大小龙池景区

## Brilliant Lakes and Stunning Mountains

Scenic Area of the Big and Small Longchi Ponds, Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## ◀— 第七篇章 —▶

### 库车市胡杨林

— “死亡之海”里的“生命之魂” —

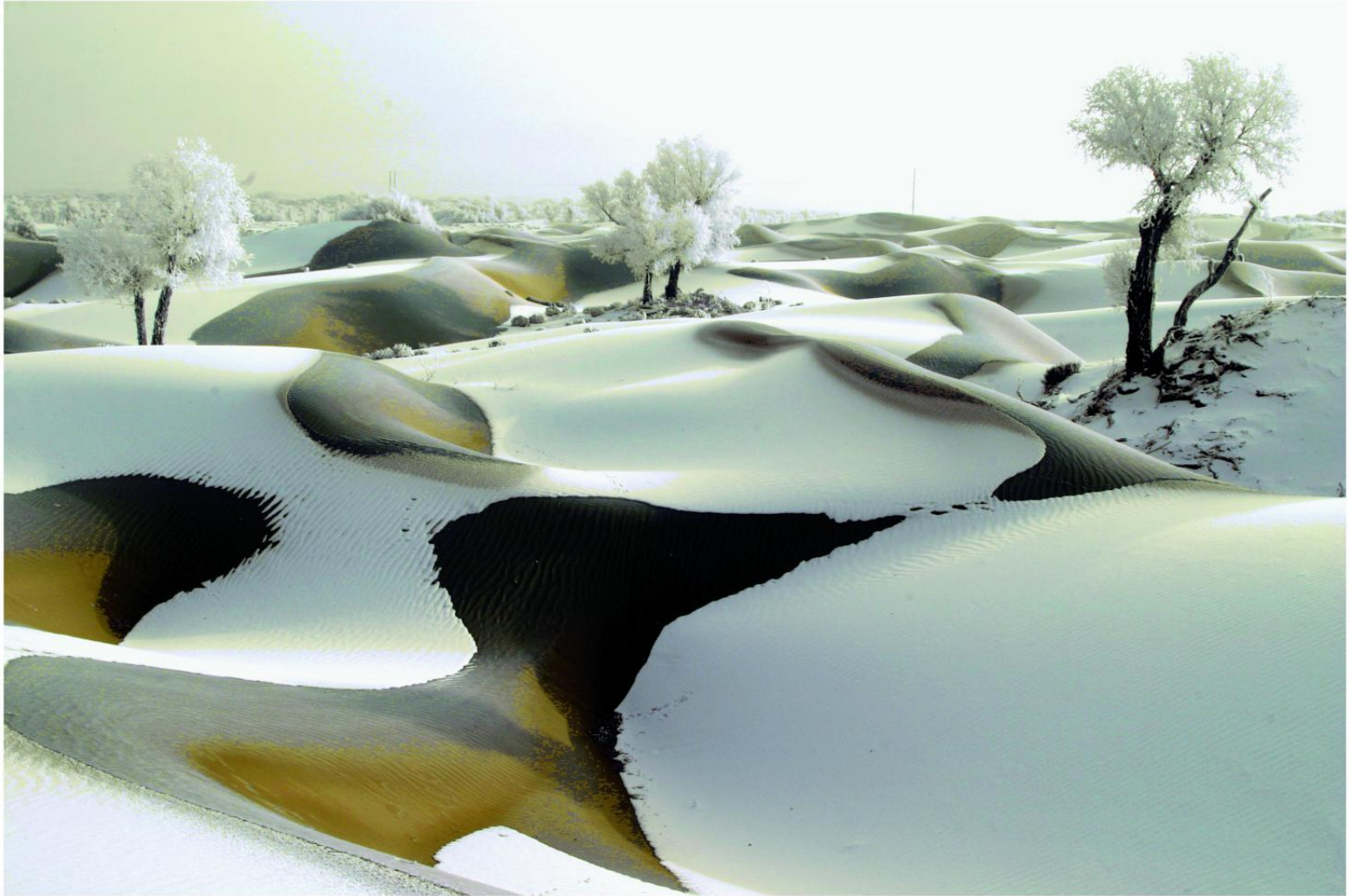
塔里木胡杨林国家森林公园距离库车市80公里，集塔河自然景观、胡杨景观、沙漠景观为一体，是世界上最古老、面积最大、保存最完整、最原始的胡杨林保护区。胡杨是公元三世纪残余的古老树种，是一种因沙化后而转化的植物，其珍贵程度与银杏齐名，具有极强的生命力，有活化石之称。春天，胡杨微吐绿芽，一派欣欣向荣的繁盛景象；盛夏，胡杨身披绿荫，落英缤纷；金秋，胡杨秀丽的风姿或倒影水中，或屹立于大漠，尽显生命的灿烂辉煌；在狂风飘雪的冬季，不屈的胡杨身披银装，不得不使人赞叹这茫茫沙海中的大漠英雄……此情此景不免让人心生感慨：不到新疆，不知胡杨之壮美，不看胡杨，不知生命之辉煌。

## ◀— Part 7 —▶

### The Poplar Grove of Kucha

— The “Essence of Life” in a “Sea of Death” —

The National Tarim Poplar Forest is 80 km away from Kucha City. Here, the mighty Tarim River, poplar trees and desert landscapes come together to form a feast for the eyes. It is the oldest, largest, best preserved and least denatured poplar reserve in the world. *Populus euphratica* is an ancient tree species left over from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century and transformed by desertification. It is as precious as the ginkgo, extremely robust, and is thought of as a living fossil. In spring, small green buds burst forth from this type of poplar, creating an image of imminent prosperity. In the middle of summer, *Populus euphratica* is covered in a shawl of luxurious foliage and colourful blossoms. In autumn, one can contemplate the noble poplar reflected in the water, or standing tall in the desert — a dignified display of vitality. In the snowy winter, the unyielding poplar dresses in silver like a lone hero in the desert, inspiring sighs of awe from visitors. If you don't visit Xinjiang, you will never know the beauty of life represented by *Populus euphratica*.



大漠雪景

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Snow in the Desert**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





胡杨魂

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**The Soul of the Poplars**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



胡杨秋韵

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Autumn Foliage of the Poplars**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



傲骨铮铮

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Sturdy Bones Standing Proud**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City,  
Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



家 园

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Homeland**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



千年胡杨

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**The Millenium-Old Populus Euphratica**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



秋 牧

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Autumn Herds**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



秋意正浓

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**A Rich Autumnal Ambiance**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



水中胡杨

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Poplars in the Water**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





塔河胡杨海

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Sea of Poplars along Tarim River**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



晚秋新月

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Crescent Moon in Late Autumn**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



夜幕下的胡杨

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Poplars at Night**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



玉树琼花

中国新疆库车市胡杨林

**Jade Foliage and Delicate Blossoms**

The Poplar Grove of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## ◀— 第八篇章 —▶

### 库车市小白杏

#### ——库车小白杏赛蜜糖

库车被誉为“中国白杏之乡”，2014年5月，库车小白杏获得农业部颁发的农产品地理标志登记证书。库车地产的杏子品种不下几十种，有银杏、大扁杏、黄油杏、辣椒杏……而最有名的当属小白杏。每年的六月，随着第一颗熟透的杏子“吧嗒”一声掉落在地上，库车的杏熟季节就到了。不管是黄澄澄、甜滋滋的杏熟季节，还是绿莹莹、酸溜溜的青杏时节，哪怕是坐在火红的石榴树下，库车人都叫它“杏园子”，可见小白杏在库车人心中的地位。

“阿克其米西”就是库车小白杏。色泽浅黄透亮、外表光滑无毛的小白杏吃到嘴里细腻无渣、绵甜清爽、馥郁芬芳，真不愧“库车白杏赛蜜糖”的美誉。

## ◀— Part 8 —▶

### The Little White Apricots of Kucha

#### — As Sweet as Honey

Kucha is known as the “Hometown of the Chinese White Apricot”. In May 2014, the little white apricots of Kucha were officially registered as a landmark agricultural product by the Ministry of Agriculture. There are dozens of apricot varieties in Kucha, including ginkgo, dabian apricots, butter apricots and pepper apricots. However, the most famous is the xiaobai, or “little white” apricots. Every June, the first ripe apricots drop to the ground with a thud, marking the beginning of the apricot season in Kucha. No matter the season — even when the apricots are green and sour, even when the pomegranates hang seductively low on the trees — the Kucha people still affectionately refer to their hometown as an “apricot orchard”, demonstrating the place that these fruit hold in their hearts. “Akkimix” is the Uyghur word for these apricots. These translucent yellow, smooth and hairless apricots have a delicate taste free of dregs. With their refreshing sweetness and enchanting fragrance, it isn't hard to understand why people say that “the little white apricots of Kucha are sweet as honey”.



晒“杏”福

中国新疆库车市小白杏

**Life is Sweet Like an Apricot**

The Little White Apricots of Kucha City,  
Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



晒“杏”福

中国新疆库车市小白杏

**Life is Sweet Like an Apricot**

The Little White Apricots of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



晒“杏”福  
中国新疆库车市小白杏

**Life is Sweet Like an Apricot**  
The Little White Apricots of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China





晒“杏”福

中国新疆库车市小白杏

**Life is Sweet Like an Apricot**

The Little White Apricots of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



晒“杏”福

中国新疆库车市小白杏

**Life is Sweet Like an Apricot**

The Little White Apricots of Kucha City,  
Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## ◀— 第九篇章 —▶

### 库车市民风民俗 (库车萨玛尔舞)

——非物质文化遗产中的“歌舞大熊猫”

有“歌舞大熊猫”之称的萨玛尔舞，发源于2000多年前的新疆龟兹地区，是新疆首批非物质文化遗产。在克孜尔千佛洞第38号窟里，就可以看到萨玛尔舞的壁画。萨玛尔舞融歌舞与杂技为一体，是从龟兹人接待宾客的仪式演变而来的舞蹈形式。舞蹈者在唢呐、铁鼓的伴奏下，头顶重达5公斤的铜盘、铜壶或叠起的细瓷小碗，随着旋律翩翩起舞，而头顶的重物不能滑落。

## ◀— Part 9 —▶

### Kucha Folk Customs The Samar Dances of Kucha

— Singing and Dancing Giant Pandas: An Intangible Heritage

Samar dances, also referred to “singing and dancing giant pandas”, originated in the ancient kingdom of Kucha over 2000 years ago. They were included in Xinjiang Autonomous Region’s first batch of intangible cultural heritage. In Cave No. 38 of the Kizil Thousand Buddha Caves, you can find frescoes of these dances. Samar performances combine song and dance with acrobatics. It is a dance form that evolved from ancient Kucheans’ rituals for receiving guests. To the rhythm of suona and iron drums, dancers move while carefully balancing copper plates, copper pots or small porcelain bowls weighing up to 5 kg on their heads.



萨玛尔舞

中国新疆库车市

**Samar Dances**

Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

## 库车土陶

—泥与火熔铸的艺术—

库车土陶技术以家庭式陶艺作坊为主，基本沿用口口相传的方式传授技艺。土陶的造型、着色都蕴含了维吾尔族人民的历史传统和民族特色，充分体现了维吾尔族人民独特的审美情趣、美学思维和创作才华，其中亦可见古丝绸之路中西文化碰撞的影响和新疆其他民族文化的影响，为古西域东西方文明交流史，特别是中华文化一脉多枝的研究和说明提供了重要例证，具有重要的历史、文化价值。

## The Earthenware of Kucha

—An Art Form Combining Clay and Fire—

Kucha earthenware is primarily produced in household pottery workshops, where potters basically use word-of-mouth to impart their skills. The shape and colour of earthenware is influenced by the historical traditions and cultural characteristics of the Uyghur people. These objects fully reflect the Uyghur people's unique aesthetic vision and creative talents. They also demonstrate the impact of the collision of Chinese and Western cultures along the ancient Silk Road, as well as the fusion of multiple ethnic cultures in Xinjiang. They act as important sources that illustrate the history of cultural exchanges between eastern and western civilizations in China's Western Regions, and are particularly valuable when it comes to elucidating the many sub-branches of Chinese culture.



陶艺人

中国新疆库车市

**Potter**

Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China



制陶作坊

中国新疆库车市

**Pottery Workshop**

Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China