

# THE GREAT WALL MARATHON

16 MAY 2020

*Exclusive to*  
**MARATHON TOURS**

Stay close to the Great Wall  
on race day and avoid a  
3 hour bus journey  
back to Beijing!

**Advice for anyone considering  
this marathon would be**

**JUST SOAK UP THE ATMOSPHERE,  
THE BUZZ AND ENJOY IT. IT'S A  
LIFETIME MEMORY!**

Does running one of the world's most challenging marathons in breath-taking scenery sound like something you would like to tackle? Get your partner, family or friends ready for a memorable holiday like no other, and an achievement you'll be talking about for years to come!

Marathon Tours is excited to bring you The Great Wall Marathon 2020. Run along one of mankind's greatest monuments and experience China like you have never imagined. With the event offering three distances of 8.5km, half and full marathon, anyone can experience the thrill of running on The Great Wall. Our travellers are often bucket-listers, wanting to achieve something amazing in a unique location. With the option of shorter distances, The Great Wall event is an equally awesome experience for everyone.

Travelling with Marathon Tours gives you all the comfort and camaraderie without the restrictions. We want this to be your trip, custom-made to suit you and those travelling with you. The Marathon Tours team collectively have a huge amount of experience in China. They will take care of the details so that you can save your energy to concentrate on race day and the celebrations afterwards. As we are part of Calder & Lawson House of Travel, who've been in business for more than 30 years, you'll have access to all the best travel deals and specialist travel knowledge.

Please note: Marathon Tours escort provided based on a minimum group size of 16.

Where a Marathon Tours' escort is not provided, an English speaking local guide and Marathon Tours on-the-ground support will be provided.



0800 RUNNING | [www.marathontours.co.nz](http://www.marathontours.co.nz) | [run@marathontours.co.nz](mailto:run@marathontours.co.nz)

# TRAVEL WITH US

Join our tailor-made tour designed from our first hand experience

Join a group of like-minded Kiwis for a once-in-a-lifetime running experience with an unforgettable holiday. The Marathon Tours' specialists have escorted Kiwi groups for the last eight events. Because we have not only travelled with the group, but also participated in the events ourselves, we can provide a huge amount of first hand advice and share our personal experiences.

Whilst the organisers provide a number of itineraries, due to our extensive first hand knowledge of both travelling and running the event, we are proud to bring you a customised package, exclusively to Marathon Tours. This exceptionally special and uniquely designed itinerary allows you to travel to China as a group with other Kiwis and Marathon Tours staff, whilst still having the opportunity to tailor your package at the completion of the event and see more of China, Asia or further abroad. With a range of amazing pre and post marathon tours provided by our China partner Acrossia, talk to us about how to complete your visit.

## Why travel with Marathon Tours?

- Exclusive to Marathon Tours, enjoy the comfort of staying near the Great Wall post race as opposed to travelling back to Beijing (3 hour journey);
- Benefit from the Marathon Tours team's first-hand experience, having run the 8.5km, half and full marathon;
- Be included in our Facebook group to meet other runners and receive information from our team, including updates, webinars etc.
- We are an exclusive New Zealand International Partner (ITP) for the Great Wall Marathon, which means we receive an allotment of guaranteed race entries and benefit from our partnerships with event organisers;
- Co-ordinate marathon entry, accommodation, group dinner, and more, in one place;
- We offer a full service for all of your travel arrangements, including domestic and international flights, stopovers, pre and post-marathon travel arrangements, travel insurance and 24/7 after hours assistance;
- Private transport and guide for Marathon Tours group;
- Assistance with visa processing (completed in advance)
- As Marathon Tours is part of the House of Travel group, we can offer all clients the opportunity to spread the cost of their marathon package, as well as any pre or post travel, using Q Card OR GEM Visa\*.



Our 2018 Great Wall Marathon Tour leaders:  
Rachael, Michael & Sophie

**Marathon Tours tied all ends together and created an unbelievable experience. I enjoyed every moment of everyday on this tour.**

## What do you need to travel to China?

VALID PASSPORT ✓ CHINESE VISA ✓

You will need a current New Zealand Passport to travel overseas, with a validity of six months or more after the due date upon which you are scheduled to arrive back in New Zealand. All New Zealand Passport holders must apply for a Chinese Visa to enter China. It is your responsibility to secure your visa well before your date of travel. A re-entry visa will be required for travellers leaving New Zealand holding a foreign passport. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the correct documentation in place to allow your return to New Zealand. If you would like our assistance in applying for your visa to enter China, please contact Marathon Tours who will be pleased to assist in confidence.

ASK US ABOUT OUR

**16 month no payments,  
no interest finance offers\***

\*Lending criteria, fees, terms and conditions apply.



## PLEASE NOTE

The Great Wall Marathon and shorter events have capped number of runners.

**Entries do sell out.**

Please ensure you confirm early to secure your place.



## TRAVEL WITH US...

Our unique package offers entry to the Great Wall Marathon, a delightful stay in rural Jixian near the venue of the marathon event and an opportunity to discover Beijing, one of the most fascinating cities in the world.

This package is a great option if you want to combine the rural China experience with classic Beijing. With three nights in the village of Jixian, staying in the luxurious Marriott, you will get a taste of village life before heading back to bustling Beijing for some retail therapy or private tours to wrap up your stay.

### Included...

- Escorted package including a local English speaking guide and Marathon Tours representatives while in China
- Return economy class airfares from Auckland to Beijing (departing Tuesday 12 May)
- All transport included
- Five nights' accommodation in our deluxe hotels as recommended by our staff and past travellers
- Late check out on your last day to maximise your sightseeing and shopping in Beijing
- Western style meals including breakfasts daily, two lunches and four dinners
- Great Wall Marathon inspection tour
- Welcome dinner with fellow kiwis
- Pre-race group dinner, exclusive to Marathon Tours clients
- Celebration gala dinner and after party with international runners
- Great Wall Marathon race entry, timing chip, medal, lunch and massage
- Comprehensive race pack information and guide book for the Great Wall Marathon event which includes race day agenda, detailed maps and day by day descriptions

### Not included..

- Visa for China (we can assist with processing)
- Optional tours (can be purchased separately)
- Travel insurance (we can assist)
- Meals not stated in the itinerary
- Personal expenses
- Tipping for the entire Great Wall Marathon trip for guides and driver (recommended NZ\$2 per person, per day for guide and NZ\$1 per person, per day for driver)

## Exclusive to MARATHON TOURS

- Stay close to the Great Wall on race day and avoid a 3 hour bus journey back to Beijing
- Our meals are western style for your pre-race piece of mind
- Be included in our Facebook group to meet other runners and receive information from our team, including updates, webinars etc.
- Exclusive welcome dinner and celebration dinner with Marathon Tours

## TRAVEL WITH US ITINERARY

### DAY ONE

Tuesday 12 May/Wednesday 13 May (in-flight meals)

Depart New Zealand 12 May and arrive in China 13 May. Accommodation at the Beijing Farimount Hotel or similar, Beijing

Day at leisure

### DAY TWO

Thursday 14 May (B, L, D)

Depart Beijing early for the Great Wall Marathon inspection briefing. Check in at Marriott Jixian.

Exclusive to Marathon Tours, enjoy dinner with other kiwis at the Marriott Jixian.

### DAY THREE

Friday 15 May (B, D)

Day of leisure or option to do a morning tour of Qing Tombs

Pre-race dinner at a nearby hotel (Western style for your pre-race piece of mind)

### DAY FOUR

Saturday 16 May (B, L, D)

RACE DAY

After conquering the Great Wall, head back to relax and use the luxurious spa facilities at the Marriott Celebration dinner at the Marriott Jixian exclusive for Marathon Tours clients.

### DAY FIVE

Sunday 17 May (B, D)

Check out of the hotel and transfer to Beijing

Day at leisure or option to do one of our recommended tours, City of Emperors or City of People Celebration gala dinner and after party with international runners

### DAY SIX

Monday 18 May (B, in-flight meals)

Enjoy a late check out, giving you time for last minute shopping and/or sightseeing

Depart for Beijing airport the evening of 18 May and arrive in New Zealand on 19 May

## RUNNERS PACKAGES

TWIN/SHARE PACKAGE FROM \$5,149<sup>PP</sup>

SINGLE PACKAGE FROM \$6,079<sup>PP</sup>

# OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS



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## OPTIONAL TOUR ONE 15 May 2020 Qing Tombs, NZD\$180pp plus tip for guides

The Qing imperial tombs cover an enormous area and house China's emperors, empresses and concubines. Although the Qing tombs are more impressive than the famous Ming dynasty graves, these Qing burial sites are visited by relatively few.

Our first stop will be at Yuling, one of the most splendid royal tombs. Next, we'll pay a visit to Ding Dongling, the tomb of Empress Dowager Cixi. The main hall contains reproductions of pictures produced in 1903 by Cixi's photo studio located at the Summer Palace. The tomb bears a striking resemblance to the Empress Dowager's quarters in the Forbidden City.

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## OPTIONAL TOUR TWO 17 May 2020 City of Emperors, NZD\$135pp plus tip for guides

The tour will begin with a stop at Tiananmen Square, the largest public plaza in the world. Located in the heart of modern Beijing, the enormous square is the main entrance to the Forbidden City. You will explore the Forbidden City until lunch when you will enjoy an outstanding dish of authentic roasted Beijing Duck. After lunch, sightseeing continues at the beautiful Temple of Heaven in the southern part of Beijing. We complete the afternoon with a visit to a silk exhibition hall where you will have the chance to see the reeling of silk from cocoons.

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## OPTIONAL TOUR THREE 17 May 2020 City of People, NZD\$125pp plus tip for guides

We begin with a visit to the Beijing Zoo where we will see Giant Pandas. Next, a drive to the Summer Palace, one of the most extraordinary sights in Beijing. Afterwards, we will visit a pearl exhibition hall just outside the Summer Palace. On your return, you will have a chance to make an outside visit to Bird's Nest and Water Cube, which are famous for the 2008 Olympic Games.

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