



THE GREAT WALL MARATHON

20 May 2017

5,164 steps into history...

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!

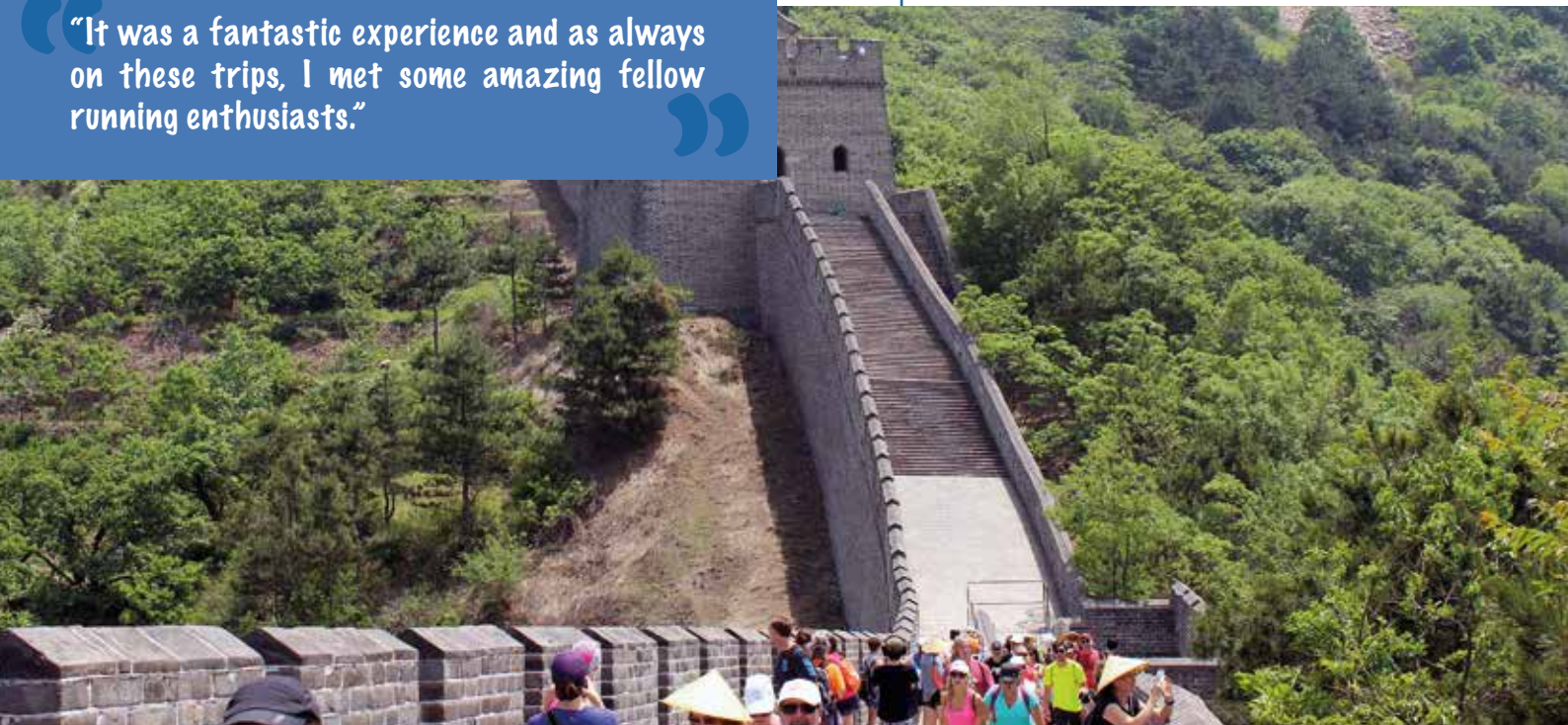
Marathon Tours is excited to bring you The Great Wall Marathon 2017. Run along one of mankind's greatest monuments and experience China like you never imagined. With the event offering three distances of marathon, half marathon and 8.5km, anyone can experience the thrill of running on The Great Wall. 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 you 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.



Marathon Tours' specialist Suzanne Hardie clawing her way to the top

"It was a fantastic experience and as always on these trips, I met some amazing fellow running enthusiasts."



[Click here to register](#)



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455 Grey Street, PO Box 4219, Hamilton 3247, New Zealand

0800 RUNNING | run@marathontours.co.nz | www.marathontours.co.nz



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Travel with us... join the escorted tour with Marathon Tours

Join a group of like-minded Kiwis for a once-in-a-lifetime running experience combined with an unforgettable holiday. The Marathon Tours specialists have escorted Kiwi groups for the last five 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, our travellers tell us that the Jixian/ Beijing itinerary is the best for New Zealanders, which is why we have personally selected it for our 'Travel with us' package. 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.

Please note...

The Great Wall Marathon and shorter events have a capped number of runners. Entries do sell out.

Please ensure you confirm early to secure your place.

"I absolutely enjoyed my first experience traveling out of my comfort zone, memories I will have for a life time. Thank you to Marathon Tours for your hard work you put in to make this dream become a reality."



Marathon Tour's staff Sophie Russo and Suzanne Hardie celebrating at the finish line with some of the runners from 2016

Why travel with Marathon Tours?

- Marathon Tours is part of House of Travel New Zealand and is a fully bonded travel agent;
- We are the New Zealand International Travel Partner (ITP) for the Great Wall Marathon, which means we receive an allotment of guaranteed race entries, and benefit from exclusive partnerships with event organisers;
- Benefit from the Marathon Tours team's first-hand experience having run the 10km event in 2012, the half-marathon in 2013 and 8.5km in 2014 and 2015, and the half and full marathon in 2016, having travelled to China many times;
- Coordinate marathon entry, accommodation, group dinner and more in one place;
- We offer a full service for all 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.

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*. We are able to assist you with completing all the necessary documentation, which means you might just be able to reach that start line sooner than you thought.

* Q Card lending criteria, fees, terms and conditions apply.

What do you need to travel to China?

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 China 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 by 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.



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 and an exciting tour of 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 to bustling Beijing for some retail therapy or private tours to wrap up your stay.

NEW FOR 2017

We will stay in Jixian after the event so we are close to the wall and avoid travelling back into Beijing that evening. Instead you can enjoy the beauty of Jixian's Marriott Hotel for an extra night!

Itinerary

DAY ONE

Tuesday 16 May/Wednesday 17 May

Depart 16 May at 11.55pm and arrive in China 17 May at 12.20pm to stay at the Jinglun Hotel Beijing
Afternoon at leisure inflight meals

DAY TWO

Thursday 18 May

Depart Beijing early for Great Wall Marathon Inspection briefing
Check in at Marriott Jixian, dinner (Chinese style buffet) at nearby hotel with all other marathon participants from around the world B, D

DAY THREE

Friday 19 May

Day of leisure or option to do a morning tour of Qing tombs (refer to page 3, cost not included)
Pre-race dinner at nearby hotel B, D

DAY FOUR

Saturday 20 May

RACE DAY then back to relax and use the luxurious spa facilities at the Marriott
Dinner available at hotel at own cost B, L

DAY FIVE

Sunday 21 May

Depart for Beijing at 9am
City of Emperors (optional tour, price is included*)
Visit Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City and finish off with a delicious Peking Duck Lunch
Transfer to celebration dinner then transfer back to the hotel or on to the after party! B, L, D

DAY SIX

Monday 22 May

Depart Beijing for New Zealand, flight departing 4.30pm, arriving in Auckland on Tuesday 23 May at 11.55am inflight meals



Runners package

NZ\$4,549.00 per adult share twin/double

Single package price NZ\$5,105.00 per adult single

Included...

- Great flight times to ensure you adapt well ready for your event. Return economy class airfares from Auckland to Beijing with Air New Zealand and Cathay Pacific. Add your domestic flights from NZ\$55.00 each way. By adding your domestic flights, you will be able to check your luggage through to Beijing and will be more protected against delays
- Arrival/departure transfers
- Five nights' accommodation in a four star hotel (as recommended by our staff and past travellers)
- Meals as stated in the itinerary. Breakfast is American-style buffet where possible
- Great Wall Marathon inspection tour
- Private group tour of Beijing*
- Celebration dinner and after party
- Sightseeing and excursions as stated in the itinerary, optional tours can be purchased separately
- Great Wall Marathon race package on race day
- 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 one and three
- Optional tour two excludes Temple of Heaven & Silk Exhibition Hall
- Travel insurance
- Meals not stated in the itinerary
- Personal expenses
- Tipping for the entire Great Wall Marathon trip for guides and driver (recommended NZ\$2.00 per person, per day for guide and NZ\$1.00 per person, per day for driver)

Jixian and Beijing your way

Whilst Marathon Tours will be taking an escorted tour group of Kiwi travellers, if you would prefer to travel on your own there are alternative itineraries in a range of accommodation levels. Bear in mind that Chinese accommodation ratings differ to those of New Zealand and there is quite a contrast between 3 and 4 star facilities, hence why we always recommend the 4 star option. It's so easy to get to China with so many airlines on offer; the hard part is choosing which one. Speak to the Marathon Tours team about the flight that is best for you.

The 'Jixian and Beijing your way' allows you to travel on the same itinerary and stay at the same hotels, except you will return to Beijing following the race. You will still have a dedicated Chinese guide throughout the main package dates and will meet fellow marathoners from all over the world.

The 'Jixian and Beijing your way' package doesn't include some of the additional inclusions in the 'Travel with us' package, such as the private tour of Beijing; however, you can choose to add any of the optional tours as provided by the Great Wall Marathon organisers.

Included...

- Five nights' accommodation (17-18 May in Beijing, 18-20 May in Jixian and 20-22 May in Beijing)
- Meals as stated in the itinerary. Breakfast is American-style buffet where possible
- Great Wall Marathon inspection tour
- Pre-race group dinner
- Gala dinner and after party
- The Great Wall Marathon race package on race day
- Comprehensive information packet and guide book for the Great Wall Marathon event which includes detailed maps and day-by-day descriptions

Not included...

- Flights
- Arrival/departure transfers
- Visa for China (however we can assist with processing)
- Optional tours (can be purchased separately)
- Travel insurance
- Meals not stated in the itinerary
- Personal expenses
- Tipping for entire Great Wall Marathon trip (recommended NZ\$2.00 per person, per day for guide and NZ\$1.00 per person, per day for driver)

OPTIONAL TOUR ONE – 19 May 2017

Rural China, NZ\$135.00pp plus tip for guides

- Local outdoor market
- The Qing Tombs
- Rural Chinese style lunch

OPTIONAL TOUR TWO – 21 May 2017

City of Emperors, NZ\$95.00pp plus tip for guides

(those with an asterisk below are included in the "travel with us" package)

- Tiananmen Square*
- Forbidden City*
- Temple of Heaven
- Silk Exhibition Hall
- Peking Duck Lunch*

OPTIONAL TOUR THREE – 21 May 2017

City of People, NZ\$89.00pp plus tip for guides

(Please note that this option is only available if you are building your own package and not 'travelling with us', however if you stay on in Beijing, we can create a personal tour to see these attractions)

- Summer Palace
- Pearl Exhibition Hall
- Giant Panda
- Olympic Village outside visit
- Lunch

Or stay in Beijing

The organisers also provide a package to stay the entire time in Beijing. Whilst Marathon Tours recommends the Jixian package from previous experience, the Beijing package might be a suitable option if you would like more time to experience everything Beijing has to offer.

This will mean additional travel after the inspection tour and early on the morning of race day.

Please speak to Marathon Tours about this option and they can put together a package for you.

HOTEL RATING

PACKAGE PRICE PER PERSON

shared double/twin

single supplement

4 star

NZ\$2,215.00

NZ\$545.00

[we stay here](#)

3.5 star

NZ\$1,999.00

NZ\$359.00

3 star

NZ\$1,869.00

NZ\$295.00



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Take note... important information you need to know about

How to protect yourself against the unknown

It is compulsory that each person has travel insurance before travelling for the Great Wall Marathon. Although it isn't compulsory that it's purchased via Allianz Global Assistance (our preferred provider), we do highly recommend it, as unlike other companies, they provide cover for the actual marathon event.

We recommend you take out insurance as soon as you book, as it will ensure you are covered in case you injure yourself prior to the event and can no longer travel.

We're constantly reminded about just how important it is to have the very best travel insurance cover, and being in New York during Hurricane Sandy certainly highlighted this once again. We know that our customers who purchased their travel insurance via AGA were hugely relieved they'd done this, whilst others were left wishing they had. Allianz Global Assistance (AGA) is the preferred travel insurance provider, both of Marathon Tours, and also House of Travel nationwide, and they're a world leader in assistance services and travel insurance.

They also include:

- Unlimited medical cover
- AGA – helping someone, somewhere in the world, every two seconds!
- Terrorism cover for emergency medical assistance and hospital expenses
- Consultant backup and support – our booking system allows us to travel our customers around the world
- 24-hour emergency assistance number, based in New Zealand
- As Marathon Tours staff are covered by AGA when we travel, in the event of something unforeseen happening if you've chosen to purchase your travel insurance via AGA, it means we can assist you immediately without hesitation and delay.

We will tailor-make your travel insurance so that you're covered for the entire time you're away from New Zealand.

Prices start from NZD\$110 per person for 8 days cover* subject to pre-existing medical conditions and age.

What do you need to travel to China?

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 China 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 by 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 Marathon Tours' assistance in applying for your visa to enter China, please contact us and we will be pleased to assist in confidence.

Terms and conditions

THE GREAT WALL MARATHON – Participation in The Great Wall Marathon is part of a tour package, with a wide range of options to choose from. It is not possible to participate in the Marathon independently of a package. Individual requests for extra days and visits to other parts of China can be combined with any of the packages.

DEPOSITS – to secure a place on one of our packages, a total, non-refundable deposit of NZ\$700.00 per person is required at the time of booking, and must be received along with your completed official entry form.

PRICES – all prices in this brochure are correct as at August 2016 and are shown in New Zealand dollars, and are based on payment by cash or cheque. Prices are subject to change at any time due to currency fluctuations and until payment is received in full. A late entry fee of NZ\$65 will be applied for participants who book and register after 21 March 2017.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS – all cancellations must be advised in writing. Please note, if you cancel part or all of your booking, you may incur cancellation charges from our suppliers. If you have any doubts as to the potential cost of amendment or cancellation fees, please check with Marathon Tours.

AMENDMENTS – if you wish to amend your booking after you have paid your deposit, this will incur an amendment fee of NZ\$50 per amendment per person, along with any fees charged by airlines and/or other suppliers.

UNUSED SERVICES – refunds will not be provided if due to illness or personal choice you do not utilise part or all of your chosen package.

INDIVIDUALISED ITINERARIES – we are more than happy to arrange individual itineraries upon request. We can tailor make an itinerary to meet your needs, whether it be for business or pleasure. You can depart from New Zealand earlier, make a stopover, or extend your stay – our marathon consultants will be pleased to help.

CHANGES – as airlines reserve the right to alter schedules, Marathon Tours cannot be held responsible when confirmed departures are subsequently changed. Once issued, airline tickets are non-refundable and non-transferable. Upgrades are available at an additional cost – subject to availability.

TAXES, SURCHARGES, AND LEVIES – all taxes and levies associated with the airfare ie. Airport departure taxes and government security levies are included in the package price provided (fully inclusive package only).

DOMESTIC CONNECTIONS – please contact Marathon Tours if you require assistance with add-on fares from provincial New Zealand points.

PREMIUM ECONOMY AND BUSINESS CLASS UPGRADES – if you require Premium Economy or Business Class upgrades, please discuss your requirements with Marathon Tours. Bookings will be subject to availability.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS, ACCURACY – this brochure is current as at August 2016. All reasonable care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this brochure at the time of printing, but services offered could be subject to availability.

TWIN SHARING – if you are travelling alone, but wish to share a twin room please indicate this on the booking form. We will do everything possible to find a suitable roommate for you. However, if a suitable match cannot be found then the single room supplement will apply. While we do our best to satisfy your twin share request, we do not accept liability for any extra costs if the room sharing arrangements do not work out to your satisfaction.

HOTEL CREDIT – credit card imprints may be required by hotels providing telephone, mini-bar, in-room movies, laundry and other facilities and services that can be charged to guest rooms. These will be required by the hotel at the time of check-in.

OUR SERVICES AND OBLIGATIONS

- 1.1 We supply travel agency services consisting of arranging, booking, and co-ordinating travel facilities and services. The actual services and products are provided, supplied or performed by suppliers of travel, entertainment, and accommodation facilities or services ("Suppliers").
- 1.2 We undertake to perform our travel agency services described in Clause 1.1 above ("the Services") with reasonable care and skill. We will not however, be liable for any loss or damage which results from the act, default or omissions of any person other than ourselves, our employees or agents, or any cause independent of human control. This includes (but is not limited to) loss, or damage which arises directly or indirectly from act of God, weather disruptions, dangers incidental to the sea or air, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of Governments or other authorities de jure or de facto, wars whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, deaths, acts of terrorism, pilferage, pandemics, quarantines or medical or customs regulations.
- 1.3 We will endeavour to provide the most suitable travel arrangements to meet the particular requirements you make known to use. However, travel is an individual experience, and your preferences and opinions may vary from our own. For this reason, we cannot take responsibility for your individual satisfaction.

TO REGISTER

Please click on the link below to register and you will be asked to pay a deposit to secure your place. It is important that you have a current passport available to upload as part of the registration process or if your passport has expired, please upload this and you can update us a later date with your new passport details. Following receipt of your registration, passport copy and deposit, we will guide you to the next part of the process which is to complete the official entry forms in colour and sign a disclaimer.

[Click here to register](#)

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