### Day 1 Laos/China 110KM MAY 6

Met by your guide at Mohan border in **early morning at 09:00 China Time**, clear the customs and ride to Mengla County and do vehicles and drivers checks and licensing. Afterwards we ride to Jinghong for overnight. Jing Hong is a lively city by the Mekong river, it is the capital city of Xishuangbannan Prefecture. A river side night market can be visited on your own tonight. (Alt. 800m, 45KM+120KM)

### Day 2 Jinghong/Lincang MAY 7

We will ride northward to Lincang, terrain gets more mountainous and scenery gets even better. We will meet some local minorities when we ride along the mountain roads, we shall ride pass tea plantations where a famous Pu'er Tea was produced here and has been carried all the way to Tibet and Nepal. Our route generally follows the famed tea horse caravan trading route to Lhasa. (Alt.1600m, 422KM)

# Day 3 Lincang/Lijiang MAY 8

We will start riding pass the mountain pass between Lincang and Dali, we traverse the watershed of Mekong and finally meet this giant river again. We climb up again and descend to a valley where you will see local agriculture and villages. We ride out the valley and start a long climb before we reach Lijiang. The mountain ride is another highlight of the day. We arrive in Lijiang in early afternoon. Lijiang is the UNESCO world heritage which

attracts crowds of visitors all year around. You will spend this afternoon and the night to explore this lovely charming town. (Alt. 2400m, 170KM)

Day 4 Lijian/Deqin Mt. Kawa Karpo (3300m) MAY 9

We will leave Lijiang and ride to the third deepest Gorge in the world, Tiger Leaping Gorge. The drive to Deqen is simply the best way to view the great variety of landscape in the Great Rivers region(a national reserve where Yangtse, Mekong and Salween river run parallel to each other). We will first meet the Yangtse river and climb up to White Horse Mountain Pass at 4290 meters, you will start your adventure into the Himalayas officially here, a magnificent view of the White Horse Mountain introduces you to the foothills of the Himalaya. We then ride to Deqin County, the frontier town on Tibet borderlands. We will be greeted by one of the most impressive mountain view in the world from Mount Kawa Karpo (6740m), the highest unclimbed mountain in the world. (Alt. 3400m, 175KM)

# Day 5 Deqin / Yerkalo / Markam / Zuogong MAY 10

We shall wake up to a glorious sunrise above Kawakarpo Mountain, We follow the upper Mekong river valley and ride in the shadow of the mountain range with gigantic glacier in our view. Ride to Yerkalo where Catholics made their home here in the Tibetan World in early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Strange phenomenon to see a Catholic church in the remote Tibetan area, as described in James Hilton's Novel. We shall pass our first checkpoint on our adventure to Tibet,

and many more... We continue this fascinating ride in the afternoon and travel along the Salween River valley Zogong. (Alt. 3800m, 382KM)

#### Day 6 Zogong/Ranwo MAY 11

Today you will ride over two high passes, one at around 4800 the other, Mt. Dongdala at 5009m to Pomda. Landscape change dramatically to vast grassland with yaks roaming around. We will be riding 108 hair pin curves on the road up the pass and finally drop to 4000 meters and we spend a night by the glacier fed lake. (Alt. 4100m, 288KM)

### Day 7 Ranwo/Lulang/Bayi MAY 12

Ride to Pomi county at a lower altitude, this is an extremely beautiful day with snow peaks soaring on bot sides of the road, ride through dense forest and enjoy a mild climate with fresh air. We follow the Yi Gong Tsangpo river and reach 5000 meter Serchila Pass with a nice view of jagged Namchabarwa mountain (7782 m). We then descend to Bayi city to spend a night there. (Alt.3000m, 360KM)

# Day 8 Bayi/Lhasa MAY 13

We venture into Lhasa, the holy city. After the long challenging overland trip you will understand why Tibetans regard the journey to Lhasa as one of the most sacred of pilgrimages. (Alt. 2650m, 400KM)

### Day 9 Lhasa Rest Day MAY 14

You will explore the holy city of Lhasa. Optional visit to famous Potala Palace (We need to book the tickets before hand, please inform your guide if you wish to visit the world heritage site), You may also walk around the Jokhang Temple and meet hundreds of Tibet pilgrims from all over Tibet.

#### Day 10 Lhasa - Gyangtse MAY 15

Full day picturesque ride to Gyangtse. We will ride across the mighty Yarlun Tsangpo Rive and climb high up to Gambala pass with a magnificent view of Yumdrok Lake. Upon arrival to Gyantse we will visit Kumbum stupa and palchok monastery. (Alt. 3950m. 265KM)

## Day 11 Gyangtse -Tingri MAY 16

Gyangtse means harvesting place in Tibetan language, we will ride pass barley fields and gradually climb up to Gyatsola pass, first view of the Himalayan giants in the afar. We will ride to Tingri, a small town in the shade of the Himalayan mountain. (Alt 4200m, 320KM)

# Day 12 Dingri - Everest Base Camp (5100m) -Gangkar MAY 17

We start early today in order to catch nice pictures of Mt. Everest and several other 8000 meter peaks. Ride cross the Pang La we will reach Everest Base Camp. Nothing compare to this great moment of "Rode to Everest", we have a simple lunch and walk around the basecamp, we ride down to Tingri.

Day 13 Gangkar - Saga MAY 18

Kashgar group: After breakfast we start our drive to Saga, enjoying the grand view of Mt. Shishapangma (8021m), Gauri Shanker and other high mountains from the Lalug La (5050m.) Pass. Packed lunch will be served at sacred Lake Pigutso, and we will overnight in a guest house in Saga. (Alt. 4400m, 230KM)

Day 14 Saga to Darchen MAY 19

We drive to Darchen via Rakshas Lake and Chiu Gompa. We ride in the corridor of the mounains, between the Himalayas and the Kailash Range. You may see Annapurna, fish tail to your left and Mt. Kailash on your right. A great day travelling on the plateau to the foot of Mount Kailash.

(Alt. 4200m, 490KM)

Day 15 Darchen - Gar (shiquanhe) -Rutog May 20

Ride to the city of Ngari, capital city Ali prefecture, surrounded by Mt. Gangdise and Mt. Kunlun. From here we head northwards with nice view grassland and roaming yaks and sheep. We shall stop for lunch in Gar and continue to Ritu, the last town of Tibet.(alt.4000m, 336KM)

Day 16 Rutog - Da Hong Liu Tan - 30 miles camp May 21

In this wilderness we should keep our eyes open for the Tibetan Wild donkey.

Here, if we are lucky, we'll see not just the odd few but herds of them. We ride around the peninsula of Pan gong tso lake, which borders India. This is long but beautiful day, we shall arrive at 30 Miles Camp. (Alt.2600m, 580KM)

Day 17 30 miles camp - Kargilik - Yarkand May 22

We ride into the Karakorum mountain, deep valleys surrounded by broken and jagged peaks. It gets warmer and warmer when we approach the edge of the Taklimakan desert. Kargilik is the name of both the oasis and the town. The rich loess terraces of the oasis are watered by the Tiznaf River and several smaller streams. We shall arrive in Yarkand late afternoon, your first town of Xinjiang Autonomous Region. You will notice the big change of climate, minority and food. (Alt. 1200, 420KM)

Day 18 Yarkand - Kashgar May 23

Fast highway to Kashgar which is an oasis city with approximately 350,000 residents. Kashgar's Old City is a traditional Islamic city. We shall arrive in Kashgar early afternoon. You will have a relaxing afternoon to service the bikes or walk around the old town of Kashgar.(Alt. 1200m, 240KM)

Day 19 Kashgar May 24

Kashgar Rest Day

Day 20 Kashgar to Torugart Pass or Irkestam. May 25

Ride to the border, exit to Kirghistan.

#### **INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE:**

China self driving permit

All accommodation on shared basis (or a single room, if booked)

All breakfasts

Local overnight hotel parking charges

Chinese Visa advice and letter of invitation

**Tibet Travel Permits** 

**Customs Deposit for imported Vehicles** 

Chinese Driving License

China Bike License Plate

Daily route notes

**Expedition Tour Shirt** 

Support Vehicle with spare fuel, water and Oxygen bottle

Support Vehicle Driver

Local Guides in Xinjiang & Tibet Provinces

### Not included

- --Visa fees
- --Entry fee to parks and sites (200-300USD/person)
- --Petrol, toll fee and parking for your bikes
- --All meals