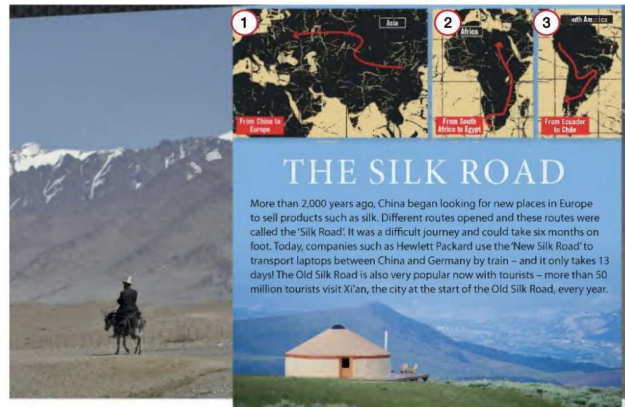




THE SILK ROAD

More than 2,000 years ago, China began looking for new places in Europe to sell products such as silk. Different routes opened and these routes were called the 'Silk Road'. It was a difficult journey and could take six months on foot. Today, companies such as Hewlett Packard use the 'New Silk Road' to transport laptops between China and Germany by train – and it only takes 13 days! The Old Silk Road is also very popular now with tourists – more than 50 million tourists visit Xi'an, the city at the start of the Old Silk Road, every year.

1 READING

a Look at maps 1–3. Which journey would you like to go on? Why?

b Read *The Silk Road* and answer the questions.

- 1 Which journey in 1a does it describe?
- 2 Was it always a tourist route?

c Read *Travelblog* and match the texts with pictures a and b.

d Read the blogs again. Who do you think said each sentence after their trip, Murat (M) or Ingrid (I)?

- 1 I saw some unusual sports on my trip.
- 2 We made sure our bags were light.
- 3 Sometimes we didn't want to get on our bikes.
- 4 The places we stayed in were usually two-star.
- 5 I needed to show my passport a lot.
- 6 We loved seeing where people lived.

e Whose trip do you think was better? Why?



2 VOCABULARY Transport

a Match the words in the box with pictures 1–8.

aeroplane (plane) scooter tram ship
helicopter coach ferry train



b Which kinds of transport:

- do people often use to go on holiday?
- do people normally use to get to work or school?
- are unusual for people to use in your country?
- do you normally use?