

# Alex Cordova

Having the opportunity to travel to three different cities in China was a life changing event that I will never forget. From climbing the Great Wall of China in Beijing, to viewing the giant necropolis that holds the terracotta army in Xi'an, I got to experience all the unique history, culture, and traditions each and every city had to offer. But throughout all of the touring and sightseeing the most memorable events during my trip was exploring through the cities on my own.

Once we arrived at the hotel after finishing all of the plans listed on the itinerary our teacher allowed us to explore the city on our leisure as long as we come back at a reasonable time to rest. Given this great opportunity to learn even more Chinese culture, me and a few friends traversed through the city. Bright lights glowing up the night sky, the bustling city crowds swarmed with people, all of this felt like a whole new world despite it sounding like any other major city in the world. But it's the small little things that change it to make something completely new from any-



thing else.

“I remember in Beijing one night me and some friends were exploring around the city. We went to a restaurant and ordered some food and then there was this tall african american man. We started talking about ‘what-cha doing here’ and all that cause it’s very rare to see other people that are not chinese fluently speaking chinese and living there as well. I don’t remember his name but I think he was an english teacher teaching in China”

