

Group tour to Uzbekistan with English-speaking guide

Страна: Uzbekistan

Organizing any complexity of tours to Issyk-Kul, Son-Kul, around Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. We guarantee you high quality of service and individual approach!:

"Golden road to Samarkand..."

The worldwide renowned historical cities with their unique architectural complexes are striking imagination of everyone with their ancient legends, magnificent beauty and ethnic charm. And now, during the trip you will follow the exactly same Great Silk Road tour formed by the ancient traders with their caravan's that long before we were born over the centuries traveled from China to Europe, connecting the East with the West.

Day 1/Saturday: Arrival in Tashkent city

Upon arrival at Tashkent airport, you will be met and transferred to the city. Check in to hotel after 14h 00.

Explore the capital of Uzbekistan, visiting Independence Square, Amir Temur Square, and Alisher Navoi Theatre Square; the Museum of Applied Arts located in the former residence of Russian diplomat Polovtsev. In the holy heart of Tashkent we visit Khast Imam Square with its Barak Khan madrassah founded in the 16th century by a descendant of Tamerlane who ruled Tashkent at the time of the Shaybanid dynasty, Tillya Sheykh Mosque, the district Friday Mosque and the mausoleum of Kafal Shashi, a local doctor, philosopher and poet of X century.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Leisure time and Overnight at the hotel.

Meal: lunch

Day 2/Sunday: Tashkent - Urgench - Khiva

Before a transfer to the airport for morning flight to Urgench, you will have an early breakfast at the hotel. Upon arrival, you are going to have a direct drive to Khiva (30 km). Arrival in Khiva. Check in to hotel after 14h 00

A trip to Khiva will be imperfect without a visit of its inner old town Itchan Kala, encircled by the unbroken clay walls (2 km). Since ancient times, the city has hardly changed. Being almost untouched, it presents the tourists an exact image of the Middle Ages town. We will visit the most important monuments of the city, such as the Kunya-Ark citadel with its Kurinish Khana; the mausoleums of Seyid Allaiddin and Pakhlavan Makhmoud; the Juma – Friday mosque with its 218 decorated wooden columns and the caravanserai; the Palace of Tash Hauli and its beautiful courtyard of khan's harem; madrassah and minaret of Islam Khodja (XIX c.).

Lunch at the ancient madrassah. Enjoy the famous Khorezm dish "Shivet Oshi" – home-made dill noodles topped with meat and tomato sauce.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meal: breakfast, lunch

Day 3/Monday: Khiva - Bukhara

Breakfast at the hotel. Take in the uncommon beauty of Central Asia's landscapes and drive to Bukhara across the Kyzyl Kum desert (450 km/ app.7-8 hrs). This journey gives an unprecedented opportunity to explore this arid landscapes, and glimpse the sheep farmers or hunters roaming across it. Enjoy lunch at a local roadside cafe.

Arriving in Bukhara in the early evening, perhaps we will take a stroll in the old town to stretch your legs.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meal: breakfast, lunch

Day 4/Tuesday: Bukhara

Breakfast at the hotel. A perfect beginning of the day will be a visit to the central complex Lyabi Hauz built around the pool with a fountain. The square was founded in the 16th - 17th centuries, and well known for several madrassahs, surrounding it, the most important of which are those of Nodir Divan-Begi, Khanaka and that of Kukeldash. We will also take a walk under the three ancient trading domes: Tok-i-Sarrafon – Moneychangers Bazaar, Tok-i-Tilpak Furushon – Cap makers Bazaar, Taqi Zargaron - Jeweler's Bazaar. Enjoy the bazaars full of various traditional articles and souvenirs.

Visit to one of the local Uzbek houses will give you a good opportunity of getting acquainted with the local customs and traditions deeply bounded with the oriental hospitality. Furthermore, you have a chance to participate in the national Uzbek dish «Pilov» cooking. Warm and friendly atmosphere and a delicious lunch served by the mistress of the house will become an unforgettable remembrance of this journey.

After lunch we will visit one of the Bukhara's highlights, a Poi Kalyan complex. It consists of the Kalyan minaret (XII c.), the lighthouse for caravans for centuries; Friday mosque (XV c.) and the Miri-Arab madrassah, an active Koran teaching center (outside visit only).

After it, we will visit the Samanids Mausoleum, the most precious Bukhara monument dated back to the 9th century. This mausoleum is considered to be a treasure of Islamic architecture in Central Asia.

Chashma-Ayub shrine (XIV-XVI cc.) is known for its curative source;

This evening you will enjoy folklore and fashion performance at Nodir Divan Begi madrassah (depending on weather conditions it takes place in open air courtyard or at restaurant).

Overnight at the hotel.

Meal: breakfast, lunch

Day 5/Wednesday: Bukhara - Samarkand

Breakfast at the hotel.

A.M.: In the morning we will continue to comprehend the silent history of this city, visiting the Fortress Ark (citadel), a fortified residence of Emirs of Bukhara; a colorful madrassah Chor Minor (1807) with four peculiar looking towers, which was used as a library for students.

Enjoy lunch at the local restaurant with a cooking master class, where you can see how one of the most unique dishes of the Uzbek cuisine, "Navruz Kebab", is cooked. Made of beef, potatoes, onions and tomatoes seasoned with cumin and some pepper, it is traditionally served in little pitchers.

P.M.: Journey to Samarkand (300 km/app. 5 hours drive), arrival and accommodation at hotel. Overnight at the hotel.

Meal: breakfast, lunch

Day 6/Thursday: Samarkand

Breakfast at the hotel.

Explore for a whole day the marvelous sites of Timur's capital, Samarkand: the Registan square surrounded by three splendid madrassahs, was intersected by six main trade routes in the time of Timur; the oldest Ulugbek madrassah with its blue tiled façade, built in XV c. Two centuries later the Sher-Dor madrassah was built with the similar blue tiled facade. When in XVII c. the Tilya-Kari madrassah was finished, the square was harmoniously completed. Today Registan square is considered to be the most beautiful square in Central Asia; a little further on, you can see the Bibi Khanym Mosque, named after one of Timur's beloved wives. Enjoy a brief stroll through the colorful Siab bazaar. We will also visit one of the holiest pilgrimage places in Uzbekistan, the necropolis of Shakh Zinda IX-XIV and XIX c. –. The huge gate and 70 m long staircase leads us to the alley between nearly 20 mausoleums. Here you can admire the finest works in glazed ceramic of Central Asian and Islamic art; unique Observatory of Ulugbek, Timur's grandson (1428-1429).

Enjoy BBQ lunch at the local restaurant.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meal: breakfast, lunch

Day 7/Friday: Samarkand - Tashkent

Breakfast at the hotel. Continuing our Samarkand city tour, we will visit the Mausoleum of Gur-Emir of Timur himself and his descendants. The octagonal complex, decorated with marble and onyx items, as well as a gold ceiling was completed in 1404. After it, we will enjoy the view of the excavation site of Afrosiab and Museum with the unique wall painting from VII c.

This afternoon we will have a lunch at the local restaurant and taste one of the region's favourite dishes, local dumplings "manty".

You will spend afternoon at leisure and in the evening will be transferred to railway station to take a high-speed express train "Afrosiyab" to Tashkent. Arrival and accommodation at the hotel. Overnight at the hotel.

Meal: breakfast, lunch

Day 8/Saturday: Departure from Tashkent

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the airport.

Check-out from hotel before 12:00pm.

Included in the price

- Excursions
- Folklore show

Period:

March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November

from 48575 KGS (725\$)

Days: 8 / Nights: 7



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