



Golden Road to Samarkand

Tailor-made tour - 13 days/12 nights

Uzbekistan is the jewel in the crown of Central Asia. Its medieval, turquoise-domed cities, bazaars and caravanserai encapsulate the romance of the Silk Road and the fabled lands of Alexander the Great and Tamerlane. The pace of the itinerary allows you free time to soak up the atmosphere and enjoy the local hospitality. The itinerary is flexible and can be tailor-made to your own requirements.

Inclusions

- 12 nights accommodation with breakfast in 3 & 4-star hotels
- Meals - 2 lunches, 12 dinners, 1-litre bottle mineral water per day
- Arrival/departure transfers by car
- Business class high-speed Afrosiyob train Tashkent-Samarkand
- Transportation by car Samarkand-Bukhara-Khiva
- Flight Urgench-Tashkent
- Sightseeing as specified with your own **English speaking** guides
- Folklore show in Bukhara

Your hotels

- **Tashkent** - Ichan Qala, City Palace or Lotte Tashkent Palace
- **Samarkand** - Grand Samarkand, Orient Star or Malika
- **Bukhara** - Asia, Omar Khayyam or Emir
- **Khiva** - Orient Star, Kheivak or Asia

Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted.

Day 1 Tashkent

You will be met on arrival and transferred to your accommodation. Overnight Tashkent. **D**

Day 2 Tashkent

Today's city tour of Tashkent includes a visit to the famous Plov Centre to witness and taste the art of cooking plov, Uzbekistan's delicious national dish. You will also visit the Chorsu farmers

market and see some of Tashkent's most impressive metro stations. Overnight Tashkent. **BLD**

Day 3 Tashkent to Samarkand

Morning transfer to the railway station to catch your high-speed Afrosiyob train to Samarkand (approx. 2 hrs). You will be met upon arrival to commence your sightseeing of this fabled city. Highlights include the magnificent Registan Square with

its three grand medressas and Gur Emir Mausoleum. Overnight Samarkand. **BD**

Day 4 Samarkand

Continue your exploration with a visit to the Shah-i-Zinda street of tombs, Bibi Khanum Mosque and Ulugbek Observatory. Overnight Samarkand. **BD**

Day 5 Samarkand & Shakhrisabz

Today you have a full day excursion, travelling through the breathtaking foothills of the Zeravshan mountain range to Shakhrisabz, the birthplace of Timur (Tamerlane). Overnight Samarkand. **BLD**

Day 6 Samarkand to Bukhara

After breakfast, begin your 300 km drive to Bukhara. On your way you will visit the remains of an ancient caravanserai and the acclaimed ceramic centre of Gijduvan. Overnight Bukhara. **BD**

Day 7 Bukhara

Today you begin your sightseeing of Central Asia's holiest city, with a history spanning over 1,000 years and an old town that has changed little in two centuries. You will see the infamous 5th century Ark Fortress, the 46m Kalyan Minaret and nearby Mosque, Lyabi-Hauz, covered bazaars and 9th century Saminids Mausoleum. Tonight's dinner will include a folklore performance. Overnight Bukhara. **BD**

Day 8 Bukhara

This morning you visit the White Palace of Kagan, built by the last Emir of Bukhara to host Tsar Nicholas II during his impending visit to Central Asia. Unfortunately the political events of 1917 prevented the Tsar from accepting the hospitality. Continue to the Emir's Summer Palace and then to the peaceful Chor-Bakr necropolis. Overnight Bukhara. **BD**

Day 9 Bukhara

Today is yours to explore the streets and covered bazaars at your own pace. Overnight Bukhara. **BD**

Day 10 Bukhara to Khiva

After breakfast, begin your 450 km drive through the Kyzylkum Desert to Khiva. Your hotel is located within the mud-baked ancient city walls. Overnight Khiva. **BD**

Day 11 Khiva

Once the main slave market of Central Asia, Khiva retains the air of a medieval oriental town. Your sightseeing this morning will take you through the exotic streets and courtyards, with a visit to the Tash Kauli Palace. Overnight Khiva. **BD**

Day 12 Khiva to Tashkent

Morning flight to Tashkent. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight Tashkent. **BD**

Day 13 Tashkent

After breakfast, tour services end with a transfer to the airport. **B**



Tour price & departures

*Prices shown per person in AUD.
Daily departures Apr-Nov 2020.*

Departures	Twn	Sgl
1 Apr-30 Nov	4312	6691

From Tashkent, why not take a 2-day trip to the Fergana Valley to watch the traditional process of silk production. Or from Khiva, travel to Nukus to visit the Savitsky Art Museum and continue by 4WD to the shores of the Aral Sea to overnight in a yurt camp.