

**Crowns of Uzbekistan
10 days – 9 nights
Tashkent, Urgench, Khiva, Bukhara, Samarkand, Shahrissabz
Adventure, Culture, History**

**This program is not suited for less than 6 people traveling together
It may be operated for groups limited by the availability of 4x4 vehicles**

At the crossroads of the caravan trails of the old Silk Road, head for Central Asia and its legendary cities. From Khiva to Samarkand via Bukhara, a rare journey in the footsteps of Tamerlane and the great Khans, between ocher steppes and azure domes.

Day 1: Tashkent

Arrive early in the morning. Reception at the airport, transfer to the hotel, breakfast and free time to rest. Lunch in town then explore the Uzbek capital, the first metropolis of Central Asia: the Hast Imam complex, the Kukeldach Madrasa, the large Tchorsou Market and the Museum of Applied Arts, with rich collections of icons, ceramics and suzanés (hanging rugs). [B/L/D]

Day 2: Tashkent, Urgench, Khiva

Flight to Urgench and transfer to Khiva, an ancient oasis city in the heart of the Khorezm region. Discovery of the old town (UNESCO), Ichan Kala, a real open-air museum entrenched behind high ramparts, with its 16th century madrasas, the magnificent minarets of Kalta Minor and Islam Khodja and the medieval fortress of Kunya Ark. In the afternoon, continue your visit to the incredible Friday Mosque and its 218 carved wooden columns, the splendid mausoleum of the poet-wrestler Pakhlavan Mahmoud and the Tash Khovli palace. Dinner in the old town. [B/L/D]

Day 3: Khiva

In the morning, visit the outside of the walled city with the Nurullabay Palace, an old Khans' palace, recently restored. The multiple rooms have been rehabilitated as exhibition halls, while retaining their former refinement. Stop at Moukhammed Rakhim Khan's Toza Bog summer residence. Free time in Khiva after lunch. Dinner and overnight at the hotel [B/L/D]

Day 4: Khiva, Bukhara

After breakfast, long drive to Bukhara (6:30 hours) through the arid steppes and the red sands of the Kyzylkum desert. Picnic lunch on the way and installation at the hotel. At the end of the afternoon visit the Samanid Mausoleum and first stroll through the alleys of Bukhara. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight [B/P/D]

Day 5: Bukhara

Today is Bukhara discovery day: the citadel of Ark, with its reception halls and harem, the Bolo Hauz Mosque (18th century), the mausoleum of Ismail Samani (9th century) and the formidable Poi-Kalian ensemble (UNESCO), whose minaret was once the tallest in Central Asia. Lunch in town. Then, continue towards the old trading domes, still in activity: Toki Zargaron (jewelers), Toki Sarrafan (money changers) and Toki Tilpak Furuchon (hat makers). Continue to the Lyabi Khauz Ensemble (16th century), with its delightful pool surrounded by plane trees and the Nadir Divan-Begi Madrasah, with its pediment decorated with birds of paradise. In the evening, show of songs and folk dances in an ancient madrasah followed by dinner in a restaurant in town. [B/L/D]

Day 6: Bukhara, Samarkand

This morning we visit the summer residence of the last Emir, the Chor-Bakr necropolis in the village of Soumitan and the Chor Minor, a small madrasa with four turquoise minarets. After lunch, transfer to the station to board the train to Samarkand (1h40). On arrival, transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 7: Samarkand

Morning dedicated to the fantastic Registan Square (UNESCO), a jewel of Islamic architecture with its three monumental madrasas covered with blue and gold earthenware, and to the splendid Gur-Emir mausoleum, where Tamerlane and his descendants rest. After lunch, visit the grand Bibi-Khanym Mosque, dedicated to Tamerlane's favorite, and the picturesque bazaar of Samarkand, renowned for its dried fruit, nougat, spices and delicious pancakes. Then visit the Aisha workshop, run by Uzbek stylist Valentina Romanenko, where you will attend a small parade of silk and cotton clothing inspired by national folklore. Dinner with the locals in the company of English-speaking students. [B/L/D]

Day 8: Samarkand (Shahrisabz)

Drive to Shahrisabz (UNESCO) and visit of the birthplace of Tamerlane: See the Ak Saray palace, the Kok Gumbaz mosque, the Dorut Tilovat and Dorut Siadat funeral complexes and the Gumbaz Seydon mausoleum. Lunch and return to Samarkand. On the way back, stop in the village of Aman-Kutan, at the foot of the Zarafshan mountains, to share tea and sweets with the locals. In the evening, dinner of shashliks (oriental skewers) in town. [B/L/D]

Day 9: Samarkand, Tashkent

Visit the magnificent Shah-i-Zinda necropolis and its glazed tombs from the Timurid era, marvels of azure ceramic. Discover Meros workshop, where traditional tissue paper is still made from mulberry bark, then the Ulugbek observatory and the mysterious mausoleum of Saint Daniel. Visit the remains of the Afrosiyob settlement and its museum. After lunch, transfer to the railroad station to board the Afrosiyob high-speed train (2 hours) to Tashkent. Dinner and brief rest at the hotel. Around 1:00 am you'll be picked-up and transferred to the airport to board your flight back home, [B/L/D]

[[B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner | [B/P/D] = Breakfast, Picnic and Dinner



Your Tour includes

- Arrival and departure transfers
- 9 nights' accommodation
 - Tashkent 2 nights
 - Khiva 2 nights
 - Bukhara 2 nights
 - Samarkand 3 nights
- Meals
 - Breakfast daily
 - 8 lunches
 - 1 picnic lunch
 - 9 dinners
- Sightseeing of Tashkent
- Visit of Khiva
- Tour of Bukhara
- Bolo Hauz Mosque
- Samani Mausoleum
- Poi-Kaliam ensemble
- Lyabi Khauz Ensemble
- Nadir Divan-Begi Madrasah
- Visit Samarkand
- Bibi-Khanym Mosque
- Excursion to Shahrisabs
- Afrosiyob settlement

- Transportation by A/C vehicle
High-speed train tickets in Economy class
(Bukhara, Samarkand, Tashkent)
- English-speaking driver-guide from
Tashkent to Tashkent
- Entrance fees to sites visited
- All local taxes

Price does not include:

- International or Domestic airfares
- Any taxes and surcharges relating to
airfares
- Travel insurance
- Entry Visa and visa fees: € 60 on site
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
except as indicated
- Other meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Camel and horse rental
- Extras and gratuities
- Expenses of personal nature
- Porterage at airport and hotels
- Optional tours and activities
- Any service not specifically listed under
"included"

Hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
First Class		
Tashkent	Hilton Tashkend	5
Khiva	Shaherezada	4
Bukhara	Minzifa Hotel	4.5
Samarkand	Diyora	4

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

Tour Prices:

These programs can be customized for individuals and groups.

Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

• **Airfare**

We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares

• **Program**

You may add or remove;

- Trip days
- Cities and sites
- Meals

• **Other options**

- The program was designed with private services, however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available

- **Quotation**

Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

Tour Code: UZ01TAS20XX

Options:

- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

Group Quotations

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.