

Best of Uzbekistan: Tashkent, Chimgan, Samarkand, Shakhrisabz, SR-07 Bukhara, Khiva



Experience the enchanting allure of Uzbekistan on our "Best of Uzbekistan" tour, embarking on a journey through its timeless wonders. This captivating itinerary invites you to unearth the cultural treasures and architectural marvels of this Central Asian gem. Over the span of 10 days, immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of Uzbekistan's history and vibrant culture as you traverse its iconic cities and historic landmarks.

From the vibrant bazaars of Tashkent to the ancient alleys of Khiva, each destination promises an unforgettable adventure brimming with discovery and awe. Highlights of the tour include the awe-inspiring Registan Square in Samarkand, the enchanting labyrinth of Bukhara's Old Town, and the formidable city walls of Khiva. Along the way, indulge in the craftsmanship of local artisans, savor the flavors of traditional Uzbek cuisine, and bask in the warm hospitality of the Uzbek people.

With seasoned guides leading the way and comfortable accommodations awaiting you at day's end, our "Best of Uzbekistan" tour offers the perfect fusion of culture, history, and adventure. Join us as we unravel the beauty and allure of Uzbekistan, where each moment is a chance to forge lasting memories.

DEPARTURE DATES: 05.11.2024; 05.18.2024; 05.25.2024; 06.01.2024; 06.08.2024; 06.15.2024; 06.22.2024; 06.29.2024; 07.06.2024; 07.13.2024; 07.20.2024; 07.27.2024; 08.03.2024; 08.10.2024; 08.17.2024; 08.24.2024; 08.31.2024; 09.07.2024; 09.14.2024; 09.21.2024; 09.28.2024; 10.12.2024; 10.26.2024; 11.09.2024; 11.23.2024; 12.07.2024.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Tashkent

Welcome to Uzbekistan! Upon your arrival, our dedicated driver will be eagerly awaiting you at the arrival sector to escort you to your hotel. We are excited about the opportunity to ensure your stay in Uzbekistan is both comfortable and enjoyable.

Day 2 - Tashkent

Today's itinerary revolves around immersing yourself in the vibrant cityscape of Tashkent, where a captivating blend of modernity and tradition awaits. Begin your city exploration at Independence Square, a poignant symbol of Uzbekistan's sovereignty, then proceed to the iconic Amir Timur Square and marvel at the grandeur of the Tashkent Metro, renowned for its intricate architecture. Dive into the rich history of the Old Town and marvel at the architectural marvels of the Khast-Imam complex. Afterwards, brace yourself for a sensory journey at the lively "Chorsu" Eastern Bazaar, where you can indulge in exquisite crafts and sample the diverse flavors of Uzbekistan. After a day brimming with exploration and revelation, retire to your accommodation in Tashkent for a peaceful overnight stay, rejuvenated and ready to continue your Uzbekistan adventure tomorrow.

Day 3 - Tashkent / Ugam-Chatkal National Park / Tashkent / Samarkand

Following breakfast, get ready for an extraordinary day excursion to Ugam-Chatkal National Park, an untouched

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included

Accommodation
Breakfasts in the hotels
High-speed day train
English - speaking guides
Guided tours & entrance fees
Airport & railway transfers

Not included

Personal travel insurance
Optional excursions
Lunches & dinners

Optional extras and upgrades

Optional excursions

Practical information

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Book with Confidence - Covid FAQs

wilderness renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and diverse wildlife. Marvel at the dazzling turquoise hues of the Charvak Reservoir and immerse yourself in the tranquility of nature as you traverse the park's scenic trails. As the day winds down, hop aboard a high-speed train bound for Samarkand, one of Central Asia's oldest inhabited cities, steeped in history and legend. Relax and soak in the comfortable two-hour journey, enjoying the picturesque vistas along the way. Upon reaching Samarkand, you'll be whisked off to your hotel for a well-deserved overnight stay, eagerly anticipating the exploration of this ancient city the next day. Let the rhythmic motion of the train guide you towards your next adventure in Samarkand.

Day 4 - Samarkand

Prepare yourself for an unforgettable journey through the ancient marvels of Samarkand as you embark on your guided city tour today. Your adventure begins at the iconic Registan Square, a UNESCO World Heritage site adorned with magnificent madrasahs and mosques that will undoubtedly leave you in awe. Next on your itinerary is the Shah-i-Zinda necropolis, a sacred site boasting intricately decorated mausoleums and tombs, each steeped in centuries of history and storytelling. Marvel at the grandeur of the Bibi-Khanym Mosque, a testament to the city's rich architectural heritage, before immersing yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of the Siab Bazaar. Here, indulge in sampling local delicacies, shop for unique souvenirs, and absorb the lively ambiance of daily life. Conclude your day with a visit to the Ulugh Beg Observatory, an ancient marvel constructed by the Timurid ruler Ulugh Beg, where you can witness the astronomical achievements of centuries past. After a day brimming with exploration and discovery, retire to your accommodation in Samarkand for a well-deserved overnight stay, reminiscing about the wonders you've encountered.

Day 5 - Samarkand / Shakhrisabz / Samarkand

Get ready for an enriching day trip to Shakhrisabz, the birthplace of the legendary conqueror Timur, as you embark on an exploration of this historic gem. Prepare to discover the UNESCO-listed historic center of Shakhrisabz, where architectural treasures await at every turn. Marvel at the grandeur of the majestic Ak-Saray Palace and pay homage to the revered Dorus-Saodat Memorial Complex, each adorned with intricate tilework and ornate designs that vividly illustrate the city's rich history and cultural significance. Delve into the stories of centuries past as you wander through these ancient monuments, gaining profound insights into the legacy of Timur and the vibrant heritage of Shakhrisabz. After a day brimming with discovery and wonder, return to Samarkand for a restful overnight stay, cherishing the memories of your exploration.

Day 6 - Samarkand / Bukhara

Begin your day with a delightful breakfast before embarking on a morning train journey to Bukhara, a picturesque ride lasting approximately 1.5 hours through the scenic Uzbek countryside. Upon arrival, prepare to

immerse yourself in the timeless charm of Bukhara as your adventure unfolds with a guided walking tour of the city's historic center. Explore the UNESCO-listed Old Town, where narrow alleys beckon you to discover hidden mosques, madrasahs, and caravanserais, each imbued with centuries of history and culture. Marvel at the iconic Kalyan Minaret, a towering symbol of Bukhara's architectural prowess and one of its most recognizable landmarks. As you wander through the labyrinthine streets, absorb the rich architectural heritage of the city, from the intricate tilework to the grand facades of ancient buildings. Allow yourself to be transported back in time as you uncover the secrets and stories concealed within Bukhara's ancient walls. Conclude your day with an overnight stay in Bukhara, filled with memories of exploration and discovery.

Day 7 - Bukhara / Gijduvon / Bukhara

Embark on a captivating day trip to Gijduvon, renowned for its rich cultural heritage. Roam through its quaint streets, uncovering hidden gems like local ceramics workshops where skilled artisans meticulously craft intricate designs, offering a glimpse into Uzbekistan's artistic legacy. Immerse yourself in the artistry of Uzbekistan as you observe the creation process, marveling at the skill and precision involved. Following this, delve into a hands-on Plov cooking master class, where you'll learn the traditional techniques behind this beloved Uzbek dish. Engage with expert chefs to prepare and relish the authentic flavors of the region. For those with different interests, there's the option to partake in a ceramics master class, allowing you to unleash your creativity and craft your own unique piece of pottery under the guidance of skilled craftsmen. Alternatively, continue exploring the town, wandering through bustling bazaars, visiting historic landmarks, or simply soaking in the local ambiance. As the day winds down, return to Bukhara, where you can unwind and reflect on the day's adventures. Enjoy a tranquil overnight stay, filled with cherished memories of your exploration in Gijduvon.

Day 8 - Bukhara / Khiva

After a hearty breakfast, set off on a picturesque journey to Khiva, spanning approximately 480 kilometers (300 miles) through the vast expanse of the Kyzyl-Kum Desert. As you traverse this enchanting landscape, marvel at the ever-changing scenery of rolling sand dunes and verdant oasis settlements. Take advantage of a brief stop in the desert to stretch your legs and immerse yourself in the breathtaking views that surround you. Upon reaching Khiva, you'll be greeted by the ancient walls of the historic Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site steeped in centuries of history and culture. Check in to your hotel and take some time to relax and rejuvenate after your travels, preparing yourself for the adventures that lie ahead.

Please note: While the typical journey by car takes approximately 7-8 hours, there's a convenient alternative for travelers—an overnight train from Bukhara to Khiva. Departing at 3 - 4 AM (depending on the schedule), this train offers a comfortable and efficient journey, arriving

in Khiva at 10 - 11 AM the same morning. Although it requires an early start, it provides ample opportunity for rest onboard and ensures you arrive at your destination refreshed and ready to explore. If opting for the train, you'll depart from Bukhara on the morning of Day 12, allowing for a few hours of sleep until 2:30 - 3 AM at your hotel in Bukhara.

Day 9 - Khiva

Today presents an enchanting opportunity to immerse yourself in the timeless charm of Khiva, where history whispers from every cobblestone and minaret. Embark on a guided walking tour of the UNESCO-listed Old Town, known as Itchan Kala, where each twist and turn unveils a new architectural marvel. Marvel at the intricate tilework embellishing the Kalta Minor Minaret, a testament to Khiva's rich artistic heritage. Explore the grandeur of the Mohammed Amin Khan Madrasah, a masterpiece of Islamic architecture that leaves visitors in awe of its beauty and craftsmanship. As you meander through the labyrinthine streets, absorb the sights and sounds of the bustling markets at the Tash-Hauli Palace, where merchants have traded their goods for centuries. Throughout your exploration, delve into Khiva's rich history and cultural heritage as your knowledgeable guide shares tales of conquests, trade, and the vibrant life that has flourished within these ancient walls for centuries. Allow yourself to be transported back in time as you uncover the secrets of this historic oasis city.

Day 10 - Khiva / Urgench

As your Silk Road journey draws to a close, we'll arrange your transfer to Urgench Airport for your return flight home. Alternatively, if you prefer, you can opt to return to Tashkent and catch your international flight from there. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for joining us on this unforgettable adventure through Central Asia. Wishing you safe travels ahead!

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3* PACKAGE

| Dates | Tour Price | Single suppliment |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 05/11/2024 - 05/20/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 05/18/2024 - 05/27/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 05/25/2024 - 06/03/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 06/01/2024 - 06/10/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 06/08/2024 - 06/17/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 06/15/2024 - 06/24/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 06/22/2024 - 07/01/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 06/29/2024 - 07/08/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 07/06/2024 - 07/15/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 07/13/2024 - 07/22/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 07/20/2024 - 07/29/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 07/27/2024 - 08/05/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 08/03/2024 - 08/12/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 08/10/2024 - 08/19/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 08/17/2024 - 08/26/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 08/24/2024 - 09/02/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 08/31/2024 - 09/09/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 09/07/2024 - 09/16/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 09/14/2024 - 09/23/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------|-------|
| 09/21/2024 - 09/30/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 09/28/2024 - 10/07/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 10/12/2024 - 10/21/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 10/26/2024 - 11/04/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 11/09/2024 - 11/18/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 11/23/2024 - 12/02/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |
| 12/07/2024 - 12/16/2024 | \$1745 | \$295 |

ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Go Russia" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please [contact us for a quote](#).

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > [Highlights of Uzbekistan: Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva \(SR-04\)](#), Price from \$1,145, 8 days
- > [Best of Kyrgyzstan: Discover Finest Lakes, Steppe Land & Historic Towns - 8 days \(SR-05\)](#), Price from \$1,595, 8 days
- > [Great Uzbekistan Discovery: from Fergana to Khiva \(SR-06\)](#), Price from \$2,095, 13 days
- > [Great Mongolian Discovery: Ulan Bator, Terelj, Gobi Desert, Karakorum, Hustai \(MN-01\)](#), Price from \$3,795, 15 days

INFORMATION ABOUT VISAS

Go Russia provides assistance in processing visas and visa fees are included in the cost of most of our trips as detailed in the tour dossier. The visa application process is very straightforward. We have years of practical experience in dealing with tourist visas, and our in-house visa team provides assistance with completing the forms and checking the documents before consular submission. Please do not worry that your application will be unsuccessful (unless you have had any immigration issues with the relevant authorities in the past). All our tourists get their visas.

All nationalities require a full passport valid for at least six months beyond the intended length of stay. Please also make sure there are enough blank pages in your passport: Russian consulate requires minimum two blank pages.

USA, UK, Germany, France, Spain residents

We have in-house visa teams in the US, UK, Germany, France and Spain. Upon your booking we will email you detailed guidance notes how to fill in the visa forms and what additional documents depending on nationality and your immigration status will be required. You will need to post your application pack to our visa processing office including your original passport. Please allow about two weeks for each visa application to be processed. Please advise us if you require your passport urgently, we can arrange urgent processing for an additional charge.

Non-USA, UK, Germany, France, Spain residents

If you are not resident in the USA, UK, Germany, France or Spain, we will issue official paperwork and email the required documents to you. You will need to apply for your visa at the local consulate. The process is very straightforward and we can assist you with completing the visa forms. You will have to pay the correct visa fee at the consulate in the country of your residence.

You can read more information about visa and application forms on our website:

www.justgorussia.com/us/visa_services.html

HOW TO BOOK

Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Go Russia holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

Online: log on to www.justgorussia.com and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a

more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Go Russia, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, brochure requests, lecture participation, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - info@justgorussia.com, or

Phone: call us on +1 (917) 259 13 33

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel / cabin category), and available upgrades.

Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum \$250) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer or credit card (2% surcharge applies for credit card payments). You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

