

# UZBEKISTAN

*Crossroad of Cultures*

'Lonely Planet' recommends...

November 15 – 24, 2024

# lonely planet

## BEST IN TRAVEL 2024



Lonely Planet recommends you traveling to Uzbekistan and includes this Silk Road spot to its TOP-10 BEST TO TRAVEL-2024 Country List.

## UZBEKISTAN / ASIA

From oasis to oasis across Uzbekistan, travelers continue to follow the trading networks of centuries past. High-speed rail and a convenient domestic flight network have replaced the camel caravans once connecting prosperous fortress towns, yet the ancient cultural hubs of Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva still evoke the era of the Silk Road.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Stand dwarfed beneath the immense madrassahs of the Registan in Samarkand, once the heart of the Timurid Empire.
- Sip tea with Bukhara's elders in the teahouses of Lyabi Hauz or strike a deal with shopkeepers in the covered bazaars.
- Ascend the heights of Khiva's Islam Khodja Minaret for stunning views across the Ichan-Kala fortress to the deserts beyond.

## TOUR FACTS

Duration: 10 days / 9 nights  
Starts and ends in: Urgench / Tashkent  
Service Level: Standard+  
Travel Style: Classic  
Physical Grading: Average  
Accommodation: Comfortable tourist-class  
Tourism type(s): International, Adventure, Cultural, Culinary, Educational, Rural, Historical, Archeological, Responsible

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS



40+ UNESCO World Heritage Sites



**Culinary Challenge:** UZBEK PLOV, A to Z cooking master class



**Responsible Travel:** Connecting curious travelers with local communities in our region is an essential part of our identity at Uzbekistan Adventures. We are committed to respecting the rights, history, and culture of Indigenous people while ensuring that tourism supports their well-being



**Archeological sites:** Ayaz Kala, Toprak Kala (most ancient settlements in Khorezm region), Sarmishsay Rock Art Cultural Landscape Reserve – Stone Age petroglyph site with a total of 10,000 ancient rock carvings



**Meal services:** You always get a carefully selected multicourse meal. Enjoy the main courses served along with fresh salads, as well as sweet treats. You can also pair your meal with our selection of complimentary soft and spirit drinks.

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## INTRODUCTION

Even more than the Roman Empire, the Silk Road shaped the world we know today. Weaving from Europe to Asia, North to the Indian Subcontinent, and everywhere in between, it was along this network of ancient trading routes that people, ideas, inventions, and goods made their way and at the center of the Silk Road here is Uzbekistan, waiting to be discovered.

The Silk Road and Uzbekistan



## ITINERARY MAP



## ITINERARY

DAY 0	Nov.14	Thursday	International flight to Urgench
DAY 1	Nov.15	Friday	Arrivals / Urgench to Khiva
DAY 2	Nov.16	Saturday	Khiva
DAY 3	Nov.17	Sunday	Toprak Kala to Ayaz Kala to Khiva
DAY 4	Nov.18	Monday	Khiva to Bukhara
DAY 5	Nov.19	Tuesday	Bukhara
DAY 6	Nov.20	Wednesday	Bukhara / Bukhara to Samarkand
DAY 7	Nov.21	Thursday	Samarkand
DAY 8	Nov.22	Friday	Samarkand / Samarkand to Tashkent
DAY 9	Nov.23	Saturday	Tashkent
DAY10	Nov.24	Sunday	Departure

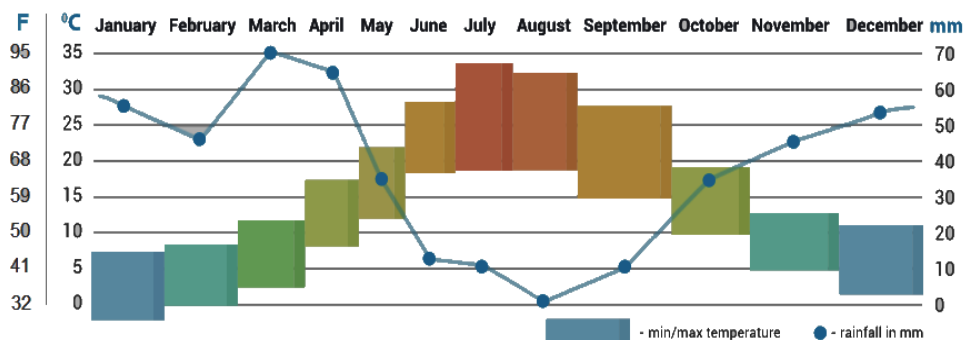
## ENTRY VISA REQUIREMENTS

	Argentina	Canada	China	Germany	Italy	Japan	Mexico	Peru	Spain	Sweden	Qatar	Singapore	South Korea	South Africa	UAE	United Kingdom	United States
<b>Uzbekistan</b>	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	E	F	F	F	F	F	E	F	F	E

F – visa free | E – e-Visa (electronic visa)

## WEATHER

Uzbekistan has an extreme continental climate. It is generally warmest in the south and coldest in the north. The temperatures in December average 0°C (32°F) and during the summer temperatures can reach 35°C (95°F) and above. Humidity is extremely low.



## RELIGION

Uzbekistan is a secular state, where representatives of different religions and confessions live together. This varied ethnic image of Uzbekistan states that there is high tolerance to the issue of religion in the country. Sunni Islam is the dominant religion in Uzbekistan consisting 93% of the population of the country except for 1% of Shia Muslims mostly living on the territory of Bukhara and Samarkand. Christianity is the other religion with most followers having its both streams: Orthodox (4%) and Catholicism (3%).

# FAM DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

**DAY0: Nov.14**      **HOMETOWN AIRPORT – ISTANBUL**

**THURSDAY**

International flight to Istanbul.

**DAY1: Nov.15**      **ARRIVAL / URGENCH TO KHIVA**

**FRIDAY**

**B/-/D**

International flight from Istanbul to Urgench (Gateway to UNESCO Khiva).

TURKISH AIRLINES

TK262/15NOV IST UGC 0145 0745 4H

Arrival. Transfer from Urgench Airport to Khiva (40km/30min).

Breakfast at hotel.

Rest time.

Welcome dinner.

Overnight at hotel in Khiva.

Ichan Kala, Inner town of Khiva (X-XXcc.)



**DAY2: Nov.16**      **KHIVA**

**SATURDAY**

**B/L/D**

Breakfast at hotel.

Sightseeing tour: Allakuli Khan Madrasah, Arab Muhammad-khan Madrasah, Mosque Islam Khoja complex, Itchan-Kala Kalta-minor, Minaret Khoja Berdibai, Kunya-Ark Citadel, Mausoleum of Makhmud Pakhlavan, Muhammad Amin-khan Madrasah, Muhammad Rahim-khan Madrasah, Sayid Allauddin Mausoleum, Shergazi-Khan Madrasah, Tash-Khovli Palace.

Lunch and dinner at restaurants.

Overnight at hotel in Khiva.





## DAY3: Nov.17      TOPRAK KALA TO AYAZ KALA TO KHIVA

### SUNDAY

B/L/D

Breakfast at hotel.

Drive from Khiva to Toprak Kala (90km1h30).

Sightseeing tour in between: Toprak Kala, Ayaz Kala.

The ancient settlement Toprak-Kala is an outstanding monument of culture of Khorezm Kingdom in I-VI centuries A.D. which includes the palace of the governor - a huge castle with three towers - was located in a northwest corner. The fire temple was in the south east from the castle.

Lunch at a yurt camp.

Drive back from Ayaz Kala.

Free time in Khiva.

Dinner at a restaurant.

Overnight at hotel in Khiva.

Private folklore and dance show in Khiva







**DAY4 Nov.18 KHIVA TO BUKHARA**

**MONDAY**

B/L/D

Breakfast at hotel.

Drive from Khiva to Bukhara (450km/6hr).

Lunch at a restaurant in the desert.

Dinner at a restaurant in Bukhara.

Overnight at hotel in Bukhara.

Poi Kalon Square in Bukhara





**DAY5 Nov.19**

**BUKHARA**

**TUESDAY**

**B/L/D**

Breakfast at hotel.

Sightseeing tour: Mausoleum of Samanids, Bolo Hauz Mosque, The Ark Citadel, Ulugbek Madrasah, Poi-Kalon Square, Magoki Attori temple, Lyabi Hauz Square.

Lunch and dinner at restaurants.

Overnight at hotel in Bukhara.

The Ark Citadel in Bukhara



**DAY6 Nov.20**

**BUKHARA / BUKHARA TO SAMARKAND**

**WEDNESDAY**

**B/L/D**

Breakfast at hotel.

Sightseeing tour: Chor Minor Madrasah, Sitorai Mokhi Khosa – Summer residence of Bukhara Emir.

Lunch at a restaurant.

Fast speed train from Bukhara 1530 to Samarkand 1700 (250km/1.5h)

Free time at hotel.

Dinner at restaurant.

Overnight at hotel.

## Wine tasting at Khovrenko Winery in Samarkand



### DAY7 Nov.21 SAMARKAND

#### THURSDAY

B/L/D

Breakfast at hotel.

Sightseeing tour: Mausoleum of Amir Temur, The Registan Square, Ruins of Bibi Khanim Mosque, Samarkand bazaar, Necropolis of Shakh-i-Zinda.

Lunch and dinner at restaurants.

**EXCLUSIVE: Wine degustation at Khovrenko Winery**

**EXCLUSIVE: Dinner and dances with locals**

Overnight at hotel in Samarkand.

The Registan Square in Samarkand



The Registan Square was the heart of the ancient city of Samarkand of the Timurid Empire. It was a public square, where people gathered to hear royal proclamations, heralded by blasts on enormous copper pipes called dzharchis — and a place of public executions. It is framed by three madrasahs (Islamic schools) of distinctive Islamic architecture. The square was regarded as the hub of the Timurid Renaissance.





**DAY8 Nov.22                    SAMARKAND / SAMARKAND TO TASHKENT**  
**FRIDAY**

B/L/D

Breakfast at hotel.

Sightseeing tour: Mulberry paper workshop, Ruins of Ulugbek's Observatory,  
Lunch at a local house with Uzbekistani palov (pilaf) cooking show.

Fast speed train from Samarkand 1640 to Tashkent 1830 (270km/2h10)

Dinner at a restaurant.

Overnight at hotel in Tashkent.

Uzbekistan palov (pilag)





## UZBEKISTAN PALOV (PILAF)



**unesco**  
Intangible Cultural Heritage

Inscribed in 2016 (11.COM) on the Representative List of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. There is a saying in Uzbekistan that guests can only leave their host's house after palov has been offered. It is prepared with ingredients such as rice, meat, spices and vegetables and in addition to be enjoyed as a regular meal, is served as a gesture of hospitality, to celebrate special occasions like weddings and new year, to help those in need who are underprivileged, or to honor loved ones who have passed away.

Amir Temur Square in Tashkent



### DAY9 Nov.23 TASHKENT

#### SATURDAY

B/L/D

Breakfast at hotel.

Sightseeing tour: Chorsu Bazaar, Kukeldash Madrasah (exterior), Independence Square, Tashkent Broadway, Square of Amir Temur.

Lunch and dinner at restaurants.

Overnight at hotel in Tashkent.

### DAY10 Nov.24 DEPARTURE

#### SUNDAY

BB/-/-

Breakfast box.

Transfer to airport for return flight. Kiss & cry.

End of the tour and our services.

TURKISH AIRLINES

TK369/24NOV TAS IST 0945 1300 5H15

**FAM COST** (10DAYS/9NIGHTS)

DBL/TWN occupancy

USD\$1,250 p/p

Single room occupancy fee

USD\$250 p/p

**FAM ACCOMMODATION**

Khiva

ARKANCHI BOUTIQUE

3+\*

Bukhara

ASIA BUKHARA

4\*

Samarkand

HILTON GARDEN INN

4\*

Tashkent

MERCURE TASHKENT

4\*

**INCLUDES**

- Accommodation
- Full board meals
- Spirit beverages (some dinners)
- Transfers according to the itinerary (tourist class vehicles)
- Escorted licensed and certified guide services
- Entrance fees (mentioned sights and museums)
- Fast-speed train ticket from Bukhara to Samarkand (economy class seat)
- Fast-speed train ticket from Samarkand to Tashkent (economy class seat)
- Daily bottled water

**EXCLUDES**

- Any international flight(s)
- Uzbekistan Entry e-Visa (if necessary), USD\$45 p/p
- Airport transfer (if vary from the mentioned flights) \$40 p/p
- Gratuities to guide and driver (usually recommended:  
USD\$6-7 p/p, p/day to a guide, USD\$4-5 p/p, p/day to a driver)
- Professional photo/video camera tax (~USD\$20 during the entire trip, must be paid at certain sites and museums), **mobile phone cameras are exempt of any taxes**

[Sign up here!](#)