CENTRAL ASIA GUIDE



PRIVATE TOUR · 1 DAY

Shirkent National Park Day tour

Round trip from Dushanbe · Tajikistan

Duration 1 day	Start and end Round trip from Dushanbe	Best time to visit Apr–May, Sep–Oct
Private tour from $250 per person	Group size Max 4 travellers	Tour type Hiking, Nature
Difficulty Moderate		

Prices and dates valid for 2026–2027 departures. Issued 12 November 2026.

Tour highlights

Walk in the footsteps of dinosaurs on a full-day hike (about 9–10 hours) from Dushanbe to the fossil tracks of Shirkent National Park. It is a fine day out for curious explorers and nature lovers alike, with spectacular mountain scenery all the way.

A private 4x4 takes you from Dushanbe to the trailhead in about 1.5–2 hours. From there you hike about 6–8 km round trip along mountain slopes and ridge trails, with breathtaking panoramic views over the Shirkent River Gorge and the surrounding peaks. On a fossilized ancient sea shore above the village of Shirkent-2, your local guide helps you find the Sauropod and Theropod footprints preserved in the rock since the Jurassic and Cretaceous eras. After a picnic with mountain views, you walk back down and drive back to Dushanbe, arriving in the late afternoon.

This tour is booked on request: check availability with us first. Once we confirm your date, you pay a deposit of 50 USD per person, and the remaining 200 USD per person in cash on arrival.

Difficulty: Moderate. A hike of about 6–8 km round trip with an elevation gain of about 550 m on mountain slopes and ridge trails that can be dry, dusty, rocky and uneven, plus about 1.5–2 hours' drive each way from Dushanbe. Comfortable, non-slip hiking boots are strongly recommended.


Shirkent national park


Shirkent dinosaur footprints

Day-by-day itinerary

DAY 1

Dushanbe – Shirkent National Park dinosaur tracks hike – Dushanbe

A full day of about 9–10 hours.

07:30–08:30 | Departure from Dushanbe
Meet your driver and guide and travel by 4x4 towards Tursunzoda and the Shirkent Valley via the Hissar Highway, enjoying the scenic countryside along the way (about 1.5–2 hours).

09:30–10:00 | Arrival at Shirkent Valley
Arrive at the trailhead of Shirkent National Park, meet your local guide and receive a short safety briefing before the hike.

10:00–11:30 | Mountain Hike
Follow mountain slopes and ridge trails, enjoying spectacular panoramic views over the Shirkent River Gorge and the surrounding peaks. The whole hike is about 6–8 km round trip.

11:30–12:30 | Dinosaur Footprints Site
Discover ancient fossilized Sauropod and Theropod footprints – your guide helps you find them on the rock surfaces – explore the rock formations and take photographs.

12:30–13:30 | Picnic Lunch
Enjoy the packed lunch and snacks you brought (there are no places to eat in the area) while admiring the panoramic mountain views.

13:30–15:30 | Return Hike
Descend along the mountain trail towards the starting point, enjoying the final views of the Shirkent Valley.

15:30–16:00 | Return to the Trailhead
Meet your driver and take a short break before departure.

16:00–17:30 | Return to Dushanbe
Enjoy the scenic drive back to Dushanbe, followed by a drop-off at your hotel or preferred location.

Travel	Dushanbe – Shirkent (65 km) Shirkent – Dushanbe (65 km)

What's included

Included

- - Private Transportation: 4WD SUV (Toyota Land Cruiser or similar) with an experienced mountain driver.
- - Fuel and Parking: All fuel and parking expenses.
- - Hotel Pick-up and Drop-off: Direct transfer from and to your hotel in Dushanbe.
- - Local Guide: an experienced local guide leads the hike for safe navigation on the mountain trails and helps you find the dinosaur footprints on the rock surfaces

Not included

- - Packed lunch, snacks and drinking water (bring your own – there are no places to eat in the area)
- - Personal travel insurance.
- - Soft drinks and additional beverages.
- - Personal expenses.

Prices

Valid for 2026–2027 departures

Private tour, per person by group size

Travellers	Price per person
1–4 travellers	$250

Private tours start on any date you choose. Prices per person in a double or twin room.

Book or ask a question

Choose a date or ask us anything about this tour. We usually reply within one working day.

Tour page	central-asia.guide/tajikistan/tajikistan-tours/shirkent-national-park-day-tour
Email	info@central-asia.guide
Phone and WhatsApp	+358 40 812 4448
Telegram	t.me/zhetigenova
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