



Uzbekistan & Kazakhstan Group Tour

A 12-Day Journey Through Uzbekistan & Kazakhstan To Astana

Countries: Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan

Tour length: 12 days / 11 nights

Route: Urgench - Khiva - Bukhara - Samarkand - Tashkent - Turkestan - Otrar - Shymkent - Almaty - Astana

2026–2027 Guaranteed Departures:

Group #1: 06.11-17.11.2026

Group #2: 21.12-01.01.2027 ❄️ New Year's Group ❄️

Group #3: 04.01-15.01.2027

Over **12 inspiring days**, we'll travel from the ancient walled city of **Khiva** to the vibrant metropolis of **Astana**, discovering the rich cultural heritage of two remarkable countries. Along the way, we'll explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites, magnificent fortresses, historic madrasas, grand mosques, elegant mausoleums, and colorful oriental bazaars that have welcomed travelers for centuries.

Travelling aboard modern speed and overnight trains, enjoying scenic road journeys, tasting authentic local cuisine, and experiencing genuine Eastern hospitality, we'll

● **Discover** the very best of Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan on one unforgettable journey through the heart of Central Asia.

● **Explore** seven legendary Silk Road cities - Khiva, Bukhara, Samarkand, Tashkent, Turkestan, Shymkent, Almaty and Astana.

● **Visit** UNESCO World Heritage Sites, ancient fortresses, magnificent mausoleums, elegant madrasas,

uncover the finest historical, cultural, and architectural treasures that make Central Asia one of the world's most fascinating travel destinations.

and some of the region's most iconic architectural landmarks.

● **Travel** comfortably by modern trains, an overnight train, and scenic road routes, experiencing the changing landscapes of Central Asia.

● **Enjoy** the perfect combination of history, culture, local traditions, vibrant bazaars, and unforgettable panoramic views - all in one carefully designed 12-day adventure

Days	Detailed tour description
	Urgench, arrival Transfer to Khiva, 30 km Arrival in Urgench. Upon leaving the airport, we'll warmly welcome you and transfer you to the enchanting city of Khiva, located just 30 km away. After checking into your hotel, you'll have some time to relax after your flight and enjoy breakfast before we begin our journey. At 11:00, we set off to explore one of the most extraordinary cities of the Great Silk Road. Our first stop is the elegant Nurullabay Palace, the former summer residence of the Khivan Khans, where traditional Eastern luxury blends beautifully with European architectural influences of the late 19th century.
Day 1	Next, we step inside the magical world of Ichan Kala, Khiva's perfectly preserved walled inner city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Together, we'll discover the Kunya Ark Fortress, admire the graceful Islam Khoja Madrasa and Minaret, and visit the magnificent Tash Khauli Palace, one of the finest royal residences in Central Asia. After some free time for lunch, we continue wandering through the timeless streets of ancient Khiva. We'll visit the Allakuli Khan Madrasa, admire the remarkable Juma Mosque with its famous forest of carved wooden columns, see the impressive Muhammad Amin Khan Madrasa and Minaret, and conclude our day at the beautiful Mausoleum of Pahlavan Mahmud, the city's most revered spiritual landmark. <i>Meals: breakfast</i>
	Khiva - Bukhara by afternoon train After breakfast, enjoy some free time to experience the charm of Khiva at your own pace. Wander through its peaceful ancient streets, capture beautiful photos, browse traditional handicraft shops, or simply relax with a cup of fragrant tea in one of the hidden courtyards of the Old City. Check-out is by 12:00.
Day 2	In the afternoon, we head to the railway station and board a comfortable modern train (15:25-21:32) to Bukhara, one of the most captivating and atmospheric cities along the Great Silk Road. Upon arrival, we'll meet you at the station, transfer you to your hotel, and assist with check-in, leaving you free to relax and prepare for another exciting day of discovery. <i>Meals: breakfast</i>
Day 3	Bukhara

At **10:00**, we begin discovering **Bukhara**, one of the oldest and most atmospheric cities of the Great Silk Road.

Our journey starts at the beautiful **Samanid Mausoleum**, one of the finest masterpieces of early Islamic architecture. We then visit the sacred **Chashma-Ayub Mausoleum** before heading up to the **Shukhov Tower observation deck**, where we'll enjoy spectacular panoramic views over the Old City, the **Bolo-Hauz Mosque**, and the imposing **Ark Fortress**. We continue to the magnificent **Poi-Kalyan Complex**, the architectural heart and one of the city's most iconic landmarks.

After some free time for lunch, we travel to the elegant **Sitorai Mokhi-Khosa Palace**, the former summer residence of the Emirs of Bukhara. Here, traditional Eastern architecture blends beautifully with European influences, creating one of the most distinctive palaces in Central Asia.

Following the tour, we return to Bukhara. The evening is yours to enjoy at your own pace—take a leisurely stroll through the atmospheric old town, relax at a traditional café, or unwind at your hotel.

Meals: breakfast

Bukhara - Samarkand by afternoon train

After breakfast, we continue exploring the timeless beauty of **Bukhara**.

At **10:00**, we set off to discover one of the most picturesque corners of the Old City. We'll visit the charming **Lyabi-Hauz Ensemble**, a peaceful square shaded by centuries-old trees, admire the beautiful **Kukeldash** and **Nadir Divanbegi Madrasas**, and stroll through Bukhara's famous **covered trading domes**, where the traditions of Silk Road commerce and craftsmanship have been preserved for centuries.

Day 4

After some free time for lunch, you'll have another opportunity to soak up the unique atmosphere of Bukhara, browse local artisan workshops, or pick up a few special souvenirs before we continue our journey.

Later, we head to the railway station and board a comfortable modern train to **Samarkand**—the legendary capital of the Timurid Empire and one of the most celebrated cities of the Great Silk Road.

Upon arrival, we'll meet you at the station, transfer you to your hotel, and assist with check-in.

Meals: breakfast

Samarkand - Tashkent by evening train

After breakfast, we begin exploring **Samarkand**, one of the greatest cities of the Great Silk Road and the magnificent capital of the Timurid Empire.

Day 5

At **09:30**, we'll visit the impressive **Gur-e-Amir Mausoleum**, the final resting place of the legendary Amir Timur (Tamerlane). From there, we continue to the breathtaking **Registan Square**, the architectural jewel of Central Asia, before wandering through the lively **Siab Bazaar**, where the colors, aromas, and flavors of Uzbekistan come to life. We also visit the magnificent **Bibi-Khanym Mosque**, once one of the largest and most ambitious mosques in the Islamic world.

After some free time for lunch, we continue our journey through Samarkand. We'll explore the stunning **Shah-i-Zinda Necropolis**, one of the city's most beautiful architectural masterpieces, and visit the

famous **Ulugh Beg Observatory**, where we'll discover the remarkable scientific achievements of one of history's greatest astronomers.

In the evening, we board a comfortable train to **Tashkent**. Upon arrival, we'll meet you at the railway station, transfer you to your hotel, and assist with check-in.

Meals: breakfast

Tashkent

At **09:30**, we begin exploring **Tashkent**, Uzbekistan's capital, where centuries-old traditions blend seamlessly with modern city life.

Our day starts at the **Khast-Imam Complex**, the spiritual heart of the city, before we immerse ourselves in the lively atmosphere of **Chorsu Bazaar**, one of the oldest and most colorful markets in Central Asia. We then visit the famous **Besh Qozon Plov Center**, where Uzbekistan's national dish is prepared in enormous traditional cauldrons—a truly unique local experience.

Day 6

After some free time for lunch, we continue our city tour. We'll see **Independence Square**, admire the elegant **Alisher Navoi Theatre**, pass by the historic **Palace of Grand Duke Konstantin Romanov**, and enjoy a leisurely walk through **Amir Timur Square** and **Broadway**, one of Tashkent's favorite pedestrian streets filled with cafés, artists, and local life.

After the tour, you'll have the rest of the day at leisure. We highly recommend visiting **Tashkent City Park**, a modern urban destination featuring beautiful fountains, restaurants, boutiques, and entertainment. You may also wish to explore the **Planetarium**, **Wax Museum**, or the immersive **Flying Theatre**. As most attractions remain open until around **11:00 PM**, you'll have plenty of time to enjoy your final evening in Uzbekistan.

Meals: breakfast

Tashkent - "Kaplanbek" land border - Turkestan by road, 270 km

After breakfast and check-out, we depart at **08:00** for the **Kaplanbek border crossing**, where we'll cross from Uzbekistan into Kazakhstan. Once border formalities are completed, we'll be welcomed by our Kazakh guide and continue our journey to **Turkestan** - one of the oldest cities of the Great Silk Road and the historic capital of the Kazakh Khanate.

Day 7

Upon arrival, we begin exploring the **Azret-Sultan State Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve**, one of Kazakhstan's most important cultural and spiritual landmarks. Our tour includes the magnificent **Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the greatest masterpieces of Timurid architecture. We'll also visit the **Mausoleum of Rabia Sultan Begim**, the historic **medieval Eastern bathhouse**, the **Hilvet Underground Mosque**, and the fascinating remains of Turkestan's ancient citadel and fortress walls, offering a glimpse into the city's rich past.

After the sightseeing, we'll check in to our hotel and enjoy a well-deserved evening of rest after another memorable day along the Silk Road.

Meals: breakfast

Turkestan - Otrar - Shaulder - Shymkent by road, 235 km

Day 8

Night train to Almaty

After breakfast, we set off for the ancient city of **Otrar**, once one of the greatest trading centers of the Great Silk Road. For centuries, this remarkable city welcomed merchants, scholars, and travelers from across Asia and played a vital role in the cultural and scientific life of the region.

Our first stop is the **Mausoleum of Arystan Bab**, one of Kazakhstan's most revered pilgrimage sites. We then explore the fascinating **ruins of the ancient settlement of Otrar** and visit the **Otrar State Archaeological Museum-Reserve**, where we'll discover the rich history of this legendary Silk Road city.

Following our visit, we continue to **Shymkent**, the vibrant gateway to southern Kazakhstan. During our city tour, we'll stroll through the **20th Anniversary of Independence Park**, visit **Ordabasy Square**, one of the city's most important historical landmarks, and walk through the **Arbat city park**.

After some free time for dinner, we transfer to the railway station at **20:00**. In the evening, we board our comfortable **overnight train to Almaty (21:15–09:05)**, where the next chapter of our Central Asian adventure awaits.

Meals: breakfast

Almaty

At **09:05**, we arrive in **Almaty**, Kazakhstan's largest city and cultural capital, where we'll meet you at the railway station. After our overnight journey, we'll enjoy a delicious breakfast at a cozy local café, already included in your tour.

Our day begins at the famous **Green Bazaar**, one of the city's most vibrant and authentic landmarks. Here, locals have been shopping for fresh fruit, spices, dried fruits, and traditional delicacies for generations. You'll have the opportunity to discover Kazakhstan's culinary traditions and, if you wish, sample local specialties such as **kumis** (fermented mare's milk) and **shubat** (fermented camel's milk).

Day 9

We then set off on a city tour of **Almaty**. We'll stroll through the beautiful **Park of the 28 Panfilov Guardsmen**, visit the magnificent **Ascension Cathedral**, one of the world's tallest wooden churches, explore the **Memorial of Glory**, and discover the fascinating **Museum of Musical Instruments**. We'll also see the city's impressive **Central Mosque**, one of the largest in Kazakhstan.

Next, we'll ride the **Kok-Tobe cable car** (*ticket payable on site*) to one of Almaty's most beloved viewpoints. From the top, you'll enjoy breathtaking panoramic views of the city framed by the majestic Tian Shan Mountains, while the hilltop park offers a lively atmosphere with cafés, attractions, and scenic walking paths.

We conclude the day with a leisurely stroll along **Arbat**, Almaty's charming pedestrian boulevard, where cafés, boutiques, street artists, and musicians create the perfect setting to experience the vibrant spirit of modern Kazakhstan.

After the tour, we'll check in to our hotel and enjoy a well-deserved evening of relaxation.

Meals: breakfast

Almaty

Night train to Astana

Day 10

After breakfast, at **10:00** we head to the picturesque **Medeu Gorge**, home to the world's highest mountain skating rink and the famous protective dam that has safeguarded Almaty from mudflows for decades.

Next, we'll take the **Shymbulak cable car** (*ticket payable on site*) to one of Central Asia's premier mountain resorts. Situated at an altitude of **2,260 metres above sea level**, Shymbulak offers breathtaking views of the **Zailiyskiy Alatau Mountains**. Here, we'll enjoy the fresh mountain air and admire the spectacular alpine scenery that makes the surroundings of Almaty so unique.

After returning to the city, we'll continue exploring its modern side. We'll visit the **Almaty Museum of Arts**, featuring both classical Kazakh masterpieces and contemporary exhibitions, before heading to **Republic Square**, one of the city's most important landmarks. Here, we'll see the impressive **Independence Monument**, crowned by the iconic **Golden Man**, one of Kazakhstan's most recognizable national symbols.

On our way to the railway station, we'll also pass several of **Almaty's famous murals**—large-scale works of street art that have become an integral part of the city's modern identity.

In the evening, we board the **overnight train to Astana (16:57–09:36)**, where the next chapter of our journey through Kazakhstan awaits.

Meals: breakfast

Astana

At **09:36**, we arrive in **Astana**, Kazakhstan's dynamic capital. After enjoying breakfast at a local café, included in the tour, we begin discovering a city where bold contemporary architecture blends seamlessly with a rich historical heritage.

Our first stop is **Astana's historic center**, located on the right bank of the **Ishim River**. This is where the city's story began, when it was known as **Akmolinsk** and later **Tselinograd**. We'll stroll through streets lined with 19th-century merchant houses, Soviet-era buildings, and quiet green avenues, offering a fascinating contrast to the futuristic skyline that defines modern Astana.

Day 11

Continuing our tour, we'll see the elegant **Atyrau Bridge**, one of the city's most distinctive architectural landmarks, before visiting the impressive **Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, the largest Orthodox church in Central Asia.

After some free time for lunch, we'll explore the modern face of Astana. We'll visit the magnificent **Nur-Astana Mosque**, admired for its white marble façade, golden domes, and graceful Islamic architecture. We then continue to the **Open-Air Space Museum**, where full-scale models of the legendary **Proton**, **Soyuz**, and **Buran** spacecraft showcase Kazakhstan's unique connection to the history of space exploration.

Our day concludes at the iconic **Bayterek Tower**, the symbol of modern Astana. From its observation deck, we'll enjoy spectacular panoramic views of a city that has transformed into one of the world's most remarkable capitals in just a few decades.

Meals: breakfast

Astana, departure

Day 12

After breakfast, you'll have some free time to enjoy your final hours in **Kazakhstan**. Take a leisurely walk through the city, pick up a few last souvenirs, or simply relax with a cup of coffee before your journey home.

Approximately **three hours before your flight**, we'll provide a transfer to **Astana International Airport** and assist with your departure.

We hope this journey has left you with unforgettable memories and introduced you to the remarkable history, rich culture, and timeless traditions of **Central Asia**. May the ancient Silk Road cities, magnificent monuments, breathtaking landscapes, and warm hospitality of the region inspire you to return for new adventures in the future.

We look forward to welcoming you back to Central Asia!

Meals: *breakfast*

Cost of the tour is 1750 USD per person (based on double occupancy)

Supplement for single accommodation - 300 USD

Tour price includes:

- ✓ Accommodation at the hotels listed below, or at similar properties of the same category, in double/twin rooms with breakfast. Early check-in on Day 1 in Urgench is included; check-in at other hotels is at 14:00, check-out at 12:00.
- ✓ Meals – daily breakfasts.
- ✓ Services of English-speaking local guides for sightseeing.
- ✓ Comfortable air-conditioned transportation throughout the tour.
- ✓ Group airport transfers on arrival and departure (on the first and last days of the tour).
- ✓ Railway transfers from Khiva to Bukhara (4-berth cabins), from Bukhara to Samarkand, from Samarkand to Tashkent (economy class), from Shymkent to Almaty (4-berth cabins), and from Almaty to Shymkent (4-berth cabins).

*** Tickets for high-speed trains are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed in advance.**

Tour price does not include:

- International flight tickets.
- Meals not mentioned above.
- Entrance fees to the monuments and museums mentioned in the itinerary (about **180 USD per person** for the whole tour).
- Extra night in Khiva: **85 USD per single** room per night / **110 USD per double** room per night.
- Extra night in Astana: **80 USD per single** room per night / **100 USD per double** room per night.
- Medical expenses and travel insurance.
- Porterage at hotels, railway stations, and airports.
- Tips for guides and drivers.
- Additional private airport transfer - **35 USD** / per sedan car (2 seats); **45 USD** / per minivan (4 seats).

Accommodation:

City	Hotels 3* - standard category
Khiva	Euro Asia 3* or similar
Bukhara	Kabir 3* or similar
Samarkand	Arba 3* or similar
Tashkent	Old Tashkent Heritage 3* or similar
Turkestan	Hampton by Hilton 3*+ or similar
Almaty	Grand Sapphire 3* or similar
Astana	Reikartz 3* или подобная

Transportation (by group size):

Group size	Vehicle
3-5 travelers	Hyundai Starex minivan for 6 seats
6-8 travelers	King Long / Toyota Hiace minivan for 10 seats
9-10 travelers	King Long van for 13 seats

We may occasionally adjust the order of visits and activities (museums and sites) if required due to weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances. Any changes will be made with your comfort and overall experience in mind.



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