

Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from India

Duration: 8 days

You will visit: Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara, Samarkand

Tour Itinerary:

Day 1: Delhi – Tashkent

Arrive in Tashkent flight from Delhi, Uzbekistan's capital. Pick-up from airport and transfer to the hotel, check-in.

Your guide and driver will pick you up from your hotel to begin your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from India, Tashkent city tour. Your private tour will include:

- Excursion to the Old City, including the Khazret-Imam Architectural Complex, which holds the oldest known Quran in the world. Also on site are the Madrasah of Barak-Khan (16th century), Tillya-Sheykh Mosque, Juma Mosque and Mausoleum of Saint Abu Bakr Kaffal Shashi (all 15th century);
- Visit to Chorsu Bazaar, Tashkent's most well-established bazaar that includes a large selection of traditional Uzbek ceramics, jewelry, handbags, garments and more;
- Ride on the Tashkent Metro, an immaculate subway system with each station decorated in colored mosaics and ceramics to depict a specific theme;
- Walk through Amir Timur Square, with a massive statue of none other than Tamerlane himself at the center;
- Independence Square, including the touching Mourning Mother Monument and the Eternal Flame, burning continuously in memory of more than half a million Uzbek soldiers who died during WW II;
- Drive to the Sacred Heart Cathedral, a 20th-century Roman Catholic Church with beautiful stained-glass windows and Gothic-style architecture;
- Tour of the Applied Arts Museum, an informative collection of Uzbekistan's finest handicrafts housed in an ornately decorated villa.

Tour duration: 5 hours. Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 2: Tashkent – Urgench – Khiva

In the morning transfer to the local airport to catch a flight to Urgench (1hr 40min). After landing in Urgench, a driver will take you to the hotel in Khiva (35 km, 45min).

Your guide will meet you at the hotel to begin your walking tour of Khiva, the "Museum Under the Open Sky".

- After beginning your excursion at Kunya-Ark Fortress, the inner citadel of Ichan Kala (Ichan-Qala), you'll continue on to some of Khiva's most famous sites:
- Kalta Minor Tower, once destined to be one of the tallest minarets in Central Asia;
- Muhammad Amin-Khan, the biggest medieval madrasah and educational institution in Khiva;
- Muhammad Rahim-Khan Madrasah, a sprawling complex that once stood as one of the largest in all Central Asia;

- Juma Mosque, built with 212 wooden columns and a minaret 32.5 m high;
- Tash-Hauli Palace (Stone Courtyard Palace), which resembles a fortress with high battlements, towers and garrisoned gates;
- Necropolis of Pahlavan Mahmud, the ancient religious center of Ichan Kala;
- Minaret and madrasah of Islam Khodja, the vizier of the last khan. The complex consists of a madrasah and a minaret whose top platform has a height of 45m.

Finish your walking city tour of Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour. Tour duration: 6-7 hours. Overnight in Khiva.

Day 3: Khiva - Bukhara

Begin the third day of your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from India with a delicious breakfast at the hotel. Head to the railway station to take the train to Bukhara (480km, app.7hrs).

Arrive in Bukhara, and transfer to your hotel in the Old City, the heart of Bukhara that resembles a scene from Arabian Nights. Free time in old city. Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 4: Bukhara

With your private local guide, enjoy a walking tour of the most impressive sights of Bukhara's Old City:

- Lyabi-Hauz ensemble, holding the largest artificial reservoir of medieval Bukhara (14th-17th centuries). This ensemble includes some of the largest madrasahs in the city: the Khanaka Madrasah, Kukeldash Madrasah and Nadir Divan Beghi Madrasah (all 16th century);
- Magoki-Attori Mosque, the oldest mosque in Bukhara (12th century);
- Four Trade Domes (15th-16th centuries), which still house local handicrafts for sale;
- Poi Kalyan Ensemble (12th-16th centuries), consisting of the Kalyan Minaret, Kalyan Mosque, Amir-Alimkhan Madrasah and Miri-Arab Madrasah;
- Ulugbek Madrasah (15th century) and Abdulazizkhan Madrasah (17th century), relatively untouched yet impressive religious schools;
- Ark Fortress (4th century), the ancient center of Bukharan statehood and currently home to a small museum;

Tour duration: 6-7 hours. Overnight in Bukhara your India to Uzbekistan tour package fourth night.

Day 5: Bukhara – Samarkand

After breakfast at the hotel, free time to explore Bukhara in your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from India. Checking out of the hotel at noon. Transfer in the afternoon to the train station for the Bukhara-Samarkand bullet train (280 km, 2hrs).

Arrive in the historical town of Samarkand, seat of Tamerlane's ancient empire and a crossroads of the world's cultures. Transfer to the Samarkand hotel, followed by free time to rest. Overnight in Samarkand.

Day 6: Samarkand

Breakfast at the hotel, on the sixth day of your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from India. Beginning your private tour of Samarkand to the following sites:

- Gur Emir, the imposing burial site of Tamerlane and Mirzo Ulugbek;
- Registan Square, the commercial center of Samarkand for centuries and Samarkand's most famous site today. The square includes three madrasahs: Ulugbek Madrasah (15th century), Sher-Dor Madrasah (17th century) and Tilla-Kori Madrasah (17th century);
- Bibi Khanum Mosque, built by Tamerlane for his favorite wife;
- Siab Bazaar, a multi-level complex where you can shop for souvenirs and sample sweets, fruits and Samarkand's famous bread;
- Shakhi-Zinda, a burial complex built between the 9th-14th centuries. Climb the blue-domed path and explore more than 20 small mausoleums that line the broad alleyway;
- Ulugbek Observatory, where you can see the remains of a 14th-15th century sextant and tour the Ulugbek Museum.

Tour duration: 6-7 hours. Overnight in Samarkand.

Day 7: Samarkand – Tashkent

After breakfast, free time to discover Samarkand during your India to Uzbekistan holiday package before checking out of the hotel at noon.

Transfer to the railway station to catch the afternoon train to Tashkent (330km, 2-3hrs). You'll be met at the Tashkent station and taken to the hotel. Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 8: Tashkent – Delhi

Free morning. Check out of the hotel and transfer to Tashkent International Airport. Take a flight from Tashkent to Delhi. End of Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from India.

Inclusions:

- Accommodation based on double/twin room with breakfasts, 7 nights;
- Transfers including airport pick-ups and drop-offs;
- Transfers including train station pick-ups and drop-offs;
- Transfers during city tour on days 1 and 6;
- Tashkent to Urgench flight ticket, economy class;
- Khiva to Bukhara train ticket, compartment class;
- Bukhara to Samarkand and Samarkand to Tashkent high-speed train ticket, economy class;
- Sightseeing city tour with local guide in Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara and Samarkand;
- Entrance tickets to the museums, mausoleums and sights in Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara and Samarkand;
- Your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from India includes VAT tax 12%.

Exclusions:

- Tour guide to accompany travelers for the full duration of the tour;
- Letter of Invitation and consular fees for Uzbekistan tourist visa;
- International flight tickets before and after the tour;
- Hotel charges for additional services;
- Tips are not included (driver, guide, porter);
- Full board (lunches and dinners);
- Travel insurance;
- All other charges and services not mentioned under "Inclusions".

February, 2023