

Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Malaysia and Indonesia

Duration: 10 days

You will visit: Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara, Samarkand, Kokand, Rishtan, Margilan

Tour Itinerary:

Day 1: Tashkent – arrival

Begin your Uzbekistan Tour from Indonesia depart Kuala-Lumpur and arrive in Tashkent International Airport with a warm welcome. Your friendly driver will meet you and escort you to your hotel, check-in and rest after your flight. Take some time to recharge and get settled. Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 2: Tashkent

Start the second day of your Indonesia to Uzbekistan Silk Road Tour with a delicious breakfast at the hotel. Your guide and driver will meet you at hotel reception to begin your City tour of Tashkent. The private city tour includes the following:

- Excursion to the Old City, including Khazret-Imam Architectural Complex, which holds the oldest known original Usman Quran in the world. Also on site are the Madrasah of Barak-Khan (16th century), Tillya-Sheikh 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;
- Next site is Kukeldash Madrasah (16th century), a centre of Islamic education which remains active to this day;
- Continue your pilgrimage to Sheikh Khavendi Takhur (Shayhantaur) Memorial Complex, burial grounds of a revered 14th-century Sufi dervish;
- Wrap up your city tour at the Applied Arts Museum, an informative collection of Uzbekistan’s finest handicrafts housed in an ornately decorated villa.

Overnight at the hotel in Tashkent.

Tour duration: 5-6 hours

Day 3: Tashkent – Urgench – Khiva

In the morning transfer to the local airport to catch a flight to Urgench (1h 30min). After landing in Urgench, a driver will take you to the hotel in Khiva (35 km, 45 min). Check-in at noon.

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

- Excursion at Kunya-Ark Fortress, the inner citadel of Ichan Kala;
- Kalta Minor Tower, once destined to be one of the tallest minarets in Central Asia;

- Muhammad Amin-Khan and Muhammad Rahim-Khan Madrasah;
- 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 Itchan-Kala;
- Minaret and madrasah of Islam Khodja, personal advisor of the last khan. The complex consists of a madrasah and a minaret.

After a full day of exploration, rest and relax at your hotel for the night in Khiva. This is just one of many exciting experiences you'll have on your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Malaysia.

Tour duration: 6-7 hours

Day 4: Khiva – Bukhara

After breakfast and hotel check-out, begin your drive from Khiva to Bukhara through the Kyzylkum Desert (480 km, 7hrs). Caravans who traversed the Great Silk Road, carrying goods of porcelain and spices, used this same route for hundreds of years*. Arrive in Bukhara in the afternoon. Check in to the hotel and enjoy a free evening in the Old City, the picturesque heart of Bukhara. Overnight in Bukhara.

**Since there is only one cafe on the way, you might want to consider preparing a packed-lunch before this trip.*

Day 5: Bukhara

Your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Malaysia continues with explore Old City of Bukhara on a walking tour with your local guide. Enjoy your private tour most impressive sights:

- The Lyabi-Hauz ensemble holds the largest artificial reservoir of medieval Bukhara (14th-17th centuries). This ensemble includes some of the largest madrasahs in Bukhara: the Khanaka Madrasah, Kukeldash Madrasah and Nadir Divan Beghi Madrasah (all 16th century);
- The Magoki-Attori Mosque is the oldest mosque in Bukhara (12th century);
- Walk through the four Trade Domes (15th-16th centuries);
- Continue your city tour of Bukhara to the Poi Kalyan Ensemble (12th-16th centuries), consisting of the Kalyan Minaret, Kalyan Mosque, Emir Alim Khan Madrasah and Mir-i-Arab Madrasah;
- Explore the relatively untouched Ulugbek Madrasah (15th century) and Abdulazizkhan Madrasah (17th century);
- Head to the Ark Fortress (4th century), the ancient center of Bukharin statehood and currently home to a small museum;
- Stop by the Bolo-Khauz Complex, consisting of an artfully decorated 18th century mosque, a minaret and reservoirs that once provided water for the entire city;
- Complete your city tour of Bukhara at the Samanids Mausoleum (9th-10th centuries), the most ancient brick building in Central Asia.

Overnight in Bukhara.

Tour duration: 6-7 hours

Day 6: Bukhara – Samarkand

After breakfast, free time to explore Bukhara before checking out of the hotel at noon. Transfer in the afternoon to the train station for the Bukhara-Samarkand bullet train (280 km, 1.5hrs). 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 or explore the city. Overnight in Samarkand your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Indonesia sixth night.

Day 7: Samarkand

Start your private tour of Samarkand on the fifth day of your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour. Enjoy a delicious breakfast at the hotel before setting out with your local guide and driver to visit some of the city's most famous sites:

- First, visit Gur Emir, the impressive burial place of Tamerlane, Mirzo Ulugbek, and Mir Said Baraka;
- Continue to the beautiful Shakhi-Zinda, a complex of mausoleums built between the 9th and 14th centuries. Take a stroll along the blue-domed path and explore more than twenty tombs, including the tomb of Kusam ibn Abbas, cousin of the Prophet Muhammad;
- Next, visit the historic Khazrat Hizr mosque;
- Followed by a shopping stop at Siab Bazaar, where you can buy sweets, fruits, and Samarkand's famous bread;
- Afterward, marvel at the Bibi Khanum Mosque, built by Timur the Great (Tamerlane) in the 15th century;
- Later, head to Ulugbek Observatory to see the remains of a 14th-15th century sextant and tour the Ulugbek Museum;
- Finally, visit the Mausoleum of Khodja Daniyar, believed to hold the remains of the prophet Daniel.

After a full day of touring, return to the hotel for a well-deserved overnight stay.

Tour duration is 6-7 hours

Day 8: Samarkand – Tashkent

Start your eight day on the Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Malaysia with a hearty breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast, free time to explore Samarkand before checking out of the hotel at noon. Transfer to the train station to take the late afternoon train to Tashkent (330 km, 2.5 hrs). Arrive in Tashkent and transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 9: Tashkent – Kokand - Rishtan

To begin your tour of the Fergana Valley, you'll head to the Tashkent Railway Station. Your train will depart Tashkent and arrive in Kokand. Your guide will meet you at the train station to start your city tour of Kokand, once the capital of the entire Kokand Khanate. Your tour will include:

- Excursion to the Palace of Khudoyar-Khan, an impressive 19th century mosque and most famous attraction in Kokand;
- Visit Jami Mosque, the iconic centerpiece of Chorsu Square;
- Tour of Norbutabiy Madrasah, built in the 18th century yet serving as a functional madrasah even today.

You'll then drive to Rishtan (50 km) to the house of well-known ceramic masters, whose works are exhibited in world exhibitions. Your visit at the pottery master's home will include: tour of the pottery workshop; instruction in the pottery process; seeing the collection of local ceramics. After check-in take some time to rest on your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Malaysia. Spend the night at guesthouse.

Day 10: Rishtan – Margilan - Tashkent – Kuala Lumpur

Begin your day with breakfast at the hotel and continue your tour to Margilan (30 km), where your tour will include:

- Visit to Said Akhmad-Khoja Madrasah, currently a home for several craftsmen producing handmade carpets and silk;
- Walk through the Hunarmadlar Markazi;
- Tour of the Yodgorlik Silk Factory and workshop, where you can observe the process of silk weaving with traditional Ikat patterns and shop for handmade khan-atlas material.

Drive back to Tashkent through the mountain pass Kamchik with its gorgeous, panoramic views (2267 m above the sea level, 320 km, 4-5 hours). Arrive in Tashkent, and transfer to Tashkent International Airport, flight to Kuala-Lumpur. End of the Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Malaysia and Indonesia.

Inclusions

- Accommodation based on double/twin room with breakfasts, 9 nights;
- Transfers including airport pick-ups and drop-offs;
- Transfers including train station pick-ups and drop-offs;
- Transfer Khiva - Bukhara and Fergana – Tashkent;
- Transfers during city tour on 2, 7, 9 and 10 days;
- Sightseeing city tour with local guide on 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10 days;
- Entrance tickets to the museums, mausoleums and sights on 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10 days;
- Tashkent to Urgench flight ticket, economy class;
- Bukhara to Samarkand, Samarkand to Tashkent and Tashkent to Kokand train ticket, economy class;
- Your Silk Road Uzbekistan Tour from Malaysia and Indonesia includes VAT tax 12%.

Exclusions

- Tour guide to accompany travelers for the full duration of the tour;
- 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”.

March, 2023