

Ultimate Uzbekistan

A CULTURAL ODYSSEY FROM SAMARKAND TO KHIVA



Wilderness Travel



TRIP DATES

2024

September 28–October 10, 2024

2025

April 19–May 1, 2025 *

May 3–15, 2025 Added Departure

September 27–October 9, 2025

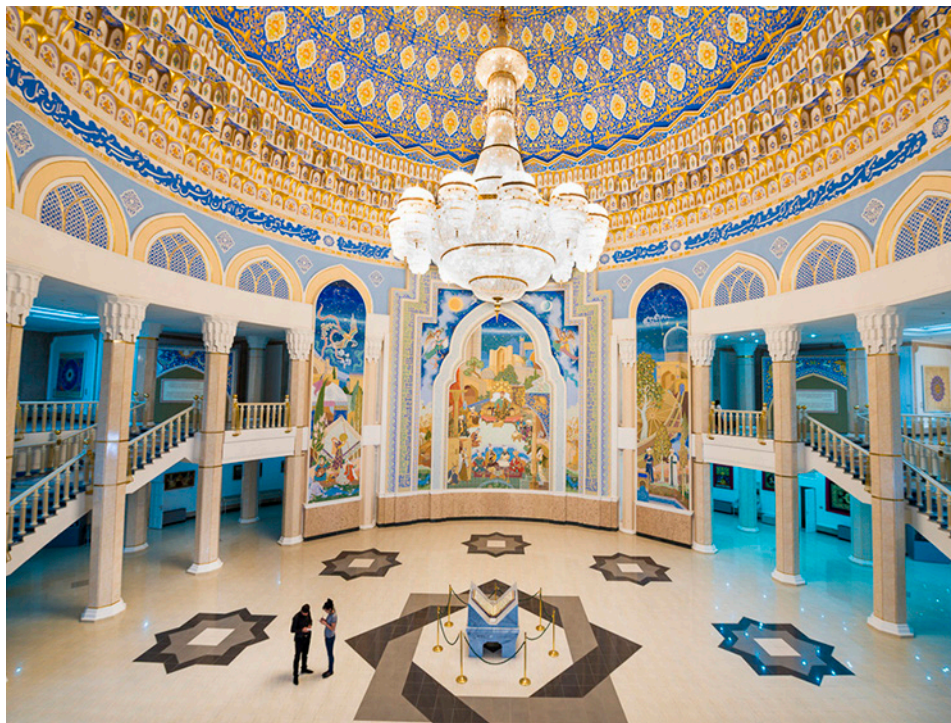
*Please note: date change since catalog publication

ABOUT LIMITED EDITION ADVENTURES

This is a Limited Edition adventure—which means a unique trip we’ve never run before or offer only every few years. Led by our most experienced Trip Leaders, these journeys often take place in remote destinations with only the most basic infrastructure for tourism. Planned daily activities and actual timings may vary due to local conditions or the discretion of your Trip Leader—it is important to bring your spirit of adventure for these special exploratory journeys!

Ultimate Uzbekistan

Join our veteran Trip Leader Hashmat Singh to discover the best of Uzbekistan’s legendary Silk Road settings. We’ll explore the famed ancient cities of Samarkand, Bhukara, and Khiva, but also take you off the beaten track to the less-known places such as Termez, with its remarkable archaeological sites, and the traditional villages of the Nurata Mountains. In these cultural jewels of Central Asia, we’ll walk in the footsteps of traders, mystics, and the great emperor Timur (Tamerlane) himself. Our explorations lead us through the majestic architectural ensemble of Samarkand’s Registan Square, the atmospheric bazaars of Bukhara, and the lost-in-time city of Khiva, a sand-colored mirage in the desert. Along the way, we’ll sip tea in Uzbekistan’s chaikhanas (teahouses), with their intricately carved and painted ceilings, meet traditional potters and other artisans, roam the bustling markets, and have an option for a soak in an authentic hammam (bathhouse). Mid-trip, we’ll get away from city life for a two-day break at a village guesthouse in the Nurata Mountains, with time to stretch our legs on hill walks and enjoy a cooking class. The mix of Uzbekistan’s Silk Road heritage, Soviet legacy, and distinctive Uzbek culture make this country so fascinating, and the welcome is heartfelt in this fabled land of turquoise domes and soaring minarets.



Itinerary



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

- Length:** 13 days
- Arrive:** Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- Depart:** Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- Lodging:** 8 nights comfortable hotels,
2 nights village guesthouse,
2 nights in basic hotel in Termez
- Meals:** All meals included
(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch,
D=Dinner)
- Activity:** Cultural Adventures,
Hiking / Trekking,
Walking
- Trip Level:** 1 2 ③ 4 5 6
Overland travel with
walking tours, cultural
explorations

DAY 1 TASHKENT / FLY TO TERMEZ

Arrive in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, the largest city in Central Asia and a modern metropolis that blends historic buildings and international business life. You'll be met for a transfer to our hotel. Most flights arrive in the early morning, so you'll have time to rest up at the hotel before meeting the group for a short city tour before lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, we transfer to the airport and fly to Termez, the southernmost city in Uzbekistan, located on the Amu Darya River near the border with Afghanistan. We'll have our trip briefing and dinner at a local restaurant, with overnight at the Meridian Hotel...BLD

Approximate Flying Details: 1 hour and 15 minutes. Note: Flight changes and delays are common in Uzbekistan. Slight changes in the program are possible on days with flights.

DAY 2 TERMEZ / KARA TEPE / MAUSOLEUM OF HAKIM AT-TERMIZI / KAMPYR-TEPE

Few travelers venture to off-the-beaten-path Termez but it has some wonderful archaeological sites. We visit fascinating Fayaz-Tepe, the ruins of an ancient rock-cut Buddhist monastery and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A shepherd discovered Fayaz-Tepe in 1968, and Uzbekistan's Soviet government excavated it soon afterward. We'll also see the beautifully tiled Mausoleum of Hakim at-Termizi, Termez' holiest site, a 15th century complex set on a hill overlooking the Amu Darya River. Further outside Termez, we visit the 4th century fortress-ruins of Kampyr-Tepe, another UNESCO site. Archaeologists associate the fortress with the legendary Alexandria on the Oxus, a city founded in the 4th century BC in the wake of the campaigns of Alexander the Great. Overnight at the Meridian Hotel...BLD

DAY 3 DRIVE TO SHAHRISABZ / SAMARKAND

A drive along and beside the Pamir Mountains brings us to Shahrissabz, a small Uzbek town famed as the birthplace of Timur (or Tamerlane), the infamous Turco-Mongol conqueror and the founder of the Timurid Empire in Persia and Central Asia. Born in 1336 AD, Timur is considered one of the greatest nomadic rulers of all time, leading his military all over Asia. After lunch, we'll explore Shahrissabz' monuments, including the blue-domed Kok Gumbaz Masjid, built in 1434, and the ruins of the once-towering 14th century Aq Saray Palace, Timur's summer home. In the late afternoon, we'll continue through the cotton plantations of the Zerafshan Valley to Samarkand, with dinner at a local restaurant and overnight at hotel...BLD

Approximate Driving Details: 5 hours to Shahrissabz; 1.5 hours to Samarkand

DAYS 4-5 SAMARKAND

The southern Uzbek city of Samarkand has been conquered, destroyed, and rebuilt by the likes of Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan. It is one of the oldest continually inhabited cities in Central Asia and was a key strategic trading post on the ancient Silk Road.

We'll have two full days here, beginning with a visit to the Registan, the city's 15th century public square. Built by Ulugbek, the grandson of Timur, the majestic Registan ("Place of Sand") is an early example of Islamic urban planning and

is famed for its stunning azure mosaics. It was built as a place where the local people could gather to hear royal news and see justice administered. Three madrasas (religious schools) survive, facing into the central courtyard, with two of them opening into internal courtyards that now house small retail shops tucked into the massive walls. They are elaborately adorned with glazed clay tiles. This masterpiece of medieval Islamic architecture was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2001.

At the Sha-i-Zinda, an incredible avenue of tiled mausoleums, we'll be surrounded by what many consider the most amazing collection of tilework in the Muslim world. We'll then head up a hill above Samarkand to visit the ruins of the 15th century Ulugbek Observatory, one of the important observatories in the world during the Middle Ages. It was built by Ulugbek, who was not only a Timurid sultan but also an astronomer and mathematician. At the Guri Emir Mausoleum, we visit the tomb of the great ruler Timur, housed in a restored octahedral building crowned by an azure fluted dome. On our first evening we're in Samarkand, we'll watch the light show at the Registan, a dazzling display of lasers reflecting on the colorful facades. Overnights at hotel...BLD each day

DAY 6 THE NURATA MOUNTAINS / UKHUM VILLAGE

For a short break from Uzbekistan's city life, we'll drive out into the dry and rocky Nurata Mountains, stretched out between Kyzyl Kum Desert on the west and barren steppe on the east. In these low mountains, traditional villages dot the



landscape amid rolling fields and orchards. On arrival in the village of Ukhum, we'll have a late lunch at our guesthouse, then take a tree-shaded walk up the valley to an ancient petroglyph site. Our local guide will introduce us to the history and culture of Nurata's villages. As we walk along the Ukhum River, we may pass shepherds and summer grazing grounds. Part of the Nurata Mountains were set aside as a nature reserve in 1975 to protect the endemic Severtzov sheep. The reserve is also home to wild boars, foxes, wolves, porcupines, and badgers.

We will be hosted for two nights in a stone-built guesthouse with simple rooms and attached shared bathrooms. (Due to the limited number of rooms at this location, single travelers may need to share accommodations.) The people of these mountains plant and grow their own vegetables, bake bread, and keep chickens and a few head of livestock. Our meals will be simple and may include delicious homemade yogurt and cheese, garden fruits, jams, and local eggs. There is no internet in the Nurata Mountains, so we'll enjoy an opportunity to disconnect and enjoy the guesthouse's garden amid the shade of mulberry, walnut, and apricot trees. Overnight at guesthouse...BLD

Approximate Driving Details: 4 hours

Approximate Hiking Details: 5 miles, 2-3 hours

DAY 7 THE NURATA MOUNTAINS / UKHUM VILLAGE TO HAYAT VILLAGE

A hike starting from our village brings us along a gently

meandering trail that leads to the top of a pass and down to the neighboring village of Hayat in an adjacent valley. The views from the ridgetop are fantastic. We'll have lunch in Hayat, then hike back to Ukhum village or return by road. In the afternoon, we'll watch or take part in a cooking class in a local home, followed by a home-cooked dinner. Overnight at guesthouse...BLD

Approximate Hiking Details: 6-7 miles, 4 hours

DAY 8 MALIK CARAVANSARY / GIJDUVAN POTTERY / BUKHARA

On our drive to Bukhara today, we visit Malik Sardoba, one of the 11th century water cisterns that were used for water storage in the desert. These cisterns provided an oasis for Silk Road caravans and their camels as they crossed the desert. Our next stop is the town of Gijduvan, where we'll visit the shop of a well-known family of ceramicists, now in its sixth generation. They use centuries-old techniques in their work, including wood-fired kilns, foot-powered wheels, and locally made glazes. We'll have lunch at the pottery shop, then continue to Bukhara. Overnight at the As-Salam Boutique Hotel...BLD

Approximate Driving Details: 180 miles, 4- 5 hours

DAY 9 BUKHARA

When the Silk Road was a network of multiple roads connecting the East and the West, Bukhara was known as the "Shining Pearl." Today, Bukhara still stands as one of Central





Asia's most romantic and atmospheric ancient cities, dating back 25 centuries and offering a unique example of a medieval Central Asian town. In its heyday (9th to 16th centuries), over 100 madrasas and 200 mosques were built here, and dozens of azure onion domes dot the skyline.

Our full-day walking tour includes fascinating places like the Ark, a massive 3rd century fortress that encompassed royal courts, reception halls, and the emir's throne. It was in use from the 5th century until 1920, when it was destroyed by the Red Army. We'll see the early 19th century Chor-Minor ("four minarets"), one of the architectural gems of the city, with its four blue-domed minarets, each one a different shape. At the Bolo-Khaouz Mosque, we'll appreciate the beautifully ornamented ceiling and elegant wooden columns, and at the mighty Kalyan minaret, over 100 feet tall, we'll gaze up at one of the most prominent landmarks in the city, built in 1127 to summon worshippers to prayer five times a day. One of the city's most impressive sights is the Samanid Mausoleum, the family crypt for Ismail Samanid, founder of the Samanid Dynasty. It is the best surviving example of 10th century architecture in the Muslim world. Another site on our walk is the iconic Djuiboriy Kalon Madrasa, built during the 15th-17th centuries. It functioned as a school up until the 19th century and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Overnight at the As-Salam Boutique Hotel...BLD

DAY 10 DRIVE TO KHIVA

Departing about noon, we journey through the expansive Kyzyl Kum Desert to Khiva, enjoying views of Central Asia's vast landscape along the way. On arrival in Khiva, we check into our hotel and walk into the walled city for dinner. Overnight at the Malika Kheiwak Hotel, located inside the ancient city walls...BLD

Approximate Driving Details: 5-6 hours

DAY 11 KHIVA

The stunning desert town of Khiva is one of the most intact Silk Road cities in the world, known for the exquisite Islamic architecture within its 600-acre historic center. It was Central Asia's very first UNESCO World Heritage Site. The magic of Khiva is not so much in individual landmarks but in its complete harmony as an ensemble. Most of Khiva's palace buildings, mosques, madrasas, mausoleums, and other structures date from 1780-1850, when the city prospered as a trade depot and fortress along the caravan routes. We'll have a memorable day on foot in the Ichan-Kala (the inner walled city).

We'll visit the Kunya Ark ("Old Citadel") complex, the residence of Khiva's khans, or supreme rulers. One of the most impressive sights in this complex is the mausoleum of Pahlavan Mahmoud, Khiva's patron saint, with its domed tombs and exquisitely patterned tiling. Among the other sites we'll explore today is the peaceful haven of the Juma



(Friday) Mosque, its main chamber divided by a maze of 218 carved wooden columns, some dating to the 10th century. From nearly everywhere in Khiva, we'll enjoy views of the massive Kalta Minor tower, a symbol of the city. We'll have a restaurant lunch during our walk and dinner on the rooftop terrace of the Terasse Café surrounded by the palace walls of the old town. Overnight at the Malika Kheiwak Hotel...BLD

Approximate Driving Details: 1 hour

Approximate Flight Time: 1.5 hours

DAY 13 DEPART

Transfer to the airport for departure on homeward-bound flights...B

DAY 12 TASHKENT

We drive to Urgench this morning to catch the morning flight to Tashkent, and enjoy an afternoon city tour on arrival. Due to the 1966 earthquake that leveled the city and the consequent Soviet-era rebuilding, little remains of old Tashkent, but Khast Imam Square is fascinating and has been rebuilt to include a new mosque with traditional architectural elements. One of the attractions in the square is the small Muiy Mubarak Library, which holds the oldest Quran in the world.

Our visit will include some of Tashkent's fascinating metro stations, among the most ornate in the world, each with its own unique artistic elements. They tell the story of Uzbekistan through decorative motifs that depict the influence of the Silk Road and the Arab and Russian empires. We'll also visit the Museum of Applied Arts and stroll in Independence Square, with its ponds and fountains. Tonight we gather for our festive Farewell Dinner. Overnight at the Lotte Hotel...LD

Trip Details

DATE AND PRICING INFORMATION

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$5695 (9-12 members)

\$5895 (4-8 members)

Single supplement: \$495 (singles will share rooms for 2 nights in Nurata Mountains)

Internal airfare: \$175 (subject to change)

2025 Trip Cost: Please call for details

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Because the prices published for our program are set so far in advance of the trip dates, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases and/or currency fluctuations that affect the actual cost of running the trip. In most years, no price changes are necessary. However, we do reserve the right to raise or lower the trip price if there is a significant change in costs or exchange rates. If this is the case, your final invoice will reflect the difference in trip cost.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guide(s)
- 13 nights in comfortable hotels and guesthouses (this includes the hotel on Day 0)
- All meals included as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Entrance fees
- Airport transfers
- Internal airfare
- All land transportation

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Travel insurance, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to Trip Leader, single supplement, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors, cost of medical immunizations (if any), and expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, souvenirs, etc.)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge!

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details:

www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance

Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

If you have booked extra services before or after the trip, an Extra Services Confirmation will be sent with your Final Documents.

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Suggested Airport: Islam Karimov Tashkent International Airport (TAS)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 1, before 7:00 am

Meeting Place: You will meet your Trip Leader in the lobby of the Lotte City Hotel at 9:00 am on Day 1.

Arrival Note: A complimentary transfer is provided from the airport to the Lotte City Hotel. Most international flights arrive into Tashkent in the early morning. Wilderness Travel will provide a hotel room for you to check into starting at 4 pm on Day 0 so you can relax and rest before meeting the group at 9:00 am on Day 1.

DEPARTURE

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Suggested Airport: Islam Karimov Tashkent International Airport (TAS)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 13, anytime

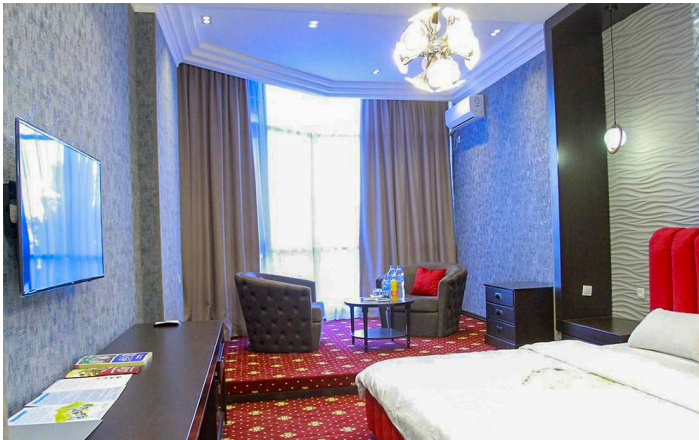
INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Uzbekistan. There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found at www.exitotravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once tickets are purchased, please forward a copy of your email flight confirmation from the airline. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

Accommodations



MERIDIAN HOTEL

Termez, Uzbekistan

Days 1 to 2 (2 nights)

The basic Meridian Hotel Termez has a bar, terrace, and central location. All rooms feature air conditioning. There are currently no hotels of international standard in Termez because so few tourists visit the city, and the city's infrastructure dates from the Soviet era. However, we feel Termez is very much worth visiting and is an opportunity to experience a part of the country few other travelers do.



SANGZOR BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Samarkand, Uzbekistan

Days 3 to 5 (3 nights)

The Sangzor is ideally located in the heart of Samarkand, close to Registan Square, Bibi Khanym Mosque, and many restaurants and shops. Guest rooms are nicely appointed and there is a nearby garden for relaxing.



ELMURAT'S GUESTHOUSE

Nurata Mountains, Uzbekistan

Days 6 to 7 (2 nights)

The village guesthouse in Ukhum in the Nurata Mountains has rooms with attached shared bathrooms. It is simple but a very peaceful and welcoming accommodation. There is a garden to relax in, and in the evening after dinner, if skies are clear, the star-gazing is fantastic. (Note: Due to the limited number of rooms at this location, single travelers may need to share accommodations.)



AS-SALAM BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Bukhara, Uzbekistan

Days 8 to 9 (2 nights)

The family-run As-Salam Boutique Hotel is located in Bukhara's UNESCO-listed Old Town, just a five-minute walk from the famous mosques and madrasas. It offers guest rooms with modern comforts, a traditional interior courtyard, air conditioning, friendly service, and a home-cooked breakfast served on the terrace.



MALIKA KHEIVAK HOTEL

Khiva, Uzbekistan

Days 10 to 11 (2 nights)

Located inside Khiva's ancient city walls, the Malika Kheivak is simple and basic, with clean, air-conditioned room spread around an open courtyard. Décor is traditional Uzbek style. The ideal location inside the city walls means we can just step outside the door and walk anywhere, as the entire walled city is a pedestrian zone.



LOTTE CITY HOTEL TASHKENT PALACE

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Day 12 (1 night)

Once a Soviet-era accommodation called the Hotel Tashkent Palace, the newly refurbished Lotte City Hotel offers clean, comfortable, and spacious rooms, and a building with local character. It has one of the best locations in the city, walkable to almost any part of town. The Opera House is across the street, and Sailgokh Street (or "Broadway") is good for walking, with artists on the sidewalks and lots of restaurants. The hotel has a bar, gym, and swimming pool.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Ultimate Uzbekistan* webpage and click on the "Accommodations" tab.

Our Guide

MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Our Trip Leader, Hashmat Singh, is one of our best and most experienced guides, with a gift for bringing history and culture to life. His deep knowledge and insights give you the privilege of authentic cultural exchange as he introduces you to the welcoming people, natural beauty, and rich cultural history of this magical country.



HASHMAT SINGH

Hashmat Singh has led over 180 journeys on three continents for us since 1990. He holds a BA in History from Delhi University and is a noted photographer. His book, *Trekking in the Himalaya* (Roli Books), features photographic essays from Ladakh to Bhutan. Born an army brat, Hashmat traveled extensively as his father was posted in various remote regions of India. His first big Himalayan trek was at age 12, with his school group, and during college, he headed into the Himalaya to take mountaineering courses. “Big mountains of the world, whether they are in the Himalaya, Alps, or the Andes, hold a special fascination for me, as do the people living amongst them, holding on to their ancient cultures in a world where everything is rapidly changing.” A passionate traveler, Hashmat has been instrumental in designing and leading adventures for us throughout Asia, and in summer, he joins our team of Trip Leaders leading hikes in the Alps. The profession of Trip Leader combines several of his interests—hiking, exploring the mountains, photography, and meeting new people. He’s a favorite of WT travelers—as one of them put it, “Hashmat is a longstanding member of the guiding hall of fame.” He lives in Delhi with his wife and two children.

What the Trip is Like

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

The trip is Level 3, walking tours and cultural explorations. While this is not a hiking trip and is not expected to be physically strenuous, the rustic accommodations, long travel and touring days, and transportation conditions may feel demanding. You will need to be comfortable being on your feet for 6-7 hours a day and sitting in a car for up to 6-7 hours in a day.

TERRAIN

On our walking tours, there are areas with uneven footing, especially in Khiva, where there are steep and uneven stairs to climb. Good mobility and sturdy footing are necessary for our daily activities. A collapsible hiking pole can be helpful. On occasion, you may have to haul your own luggage for a short distance when we are checking in and out of a hotel, as porters may not always be available.

GETTING IN SHAPE

We strongly urge you to train for your trip, as your enjoyment will be highly dependent on your level of fitness. The best training for a hike is to hike, especially over hills or rough terrain. Next best are running, swimming, bicycling, or other cardiovascular exercise. Stair climbing machines are excellent preparation for hiking uphill. Your feet should also be well prepared as we will be standing for 6-7 hours per day—make sure your shoes are sturdy, comfortable, and thoroughly broken-in.

WEATHER

The best times to visit Uzbekistan are April-May and September-November. In these months, the daytime temperatures are milder and the nights are nice and cool. Daytime temperatures are in the 70-80s, dropping to the 60s at night. The hottest period is from late June to mid-August. The winter months can be very cold.

ACCOMMODATIONS

We'll be staying in the best-available city hotels, and while they are comfortable, they may not always be up to the high international standards you are used to. For two nights in the mountains, we stay in a village guesthouse that is simple and has shared bathroom facilities. Single rooms can be requested, but are not guaranteed, and your two nights in the guesthouse may require you to share a room with a fellow single traveler of the same gender (talk to your Trip Specialist for details). Many of these hotels are chosen for their proximity to the centers of the historic districts. However, that means our vehicle cannot always drop your bags off at the front door. When this is the case, you will need to carry your own bags 200-400 yards to the hotel as porters are typically not available.

CUISINE

Uzbekistan shares its culinary tradition with Turkey as well as China and other Eastern Asian countries. Meals are relatively meat-centered, with “palov” as the national dish. Palov (similar to pilaf) is a hearty portion of rice topped with lamb or beef, onions, garlic, raisins, carrots, and apricots. Another common dish is shashlik, a type of shish kebab, traditionally lamb or mutton, served on skewers. For vegetarians, there are usually salad options available, including achichuk, a staple around the country made with fresh tomatoes, a Manchego-like cheese, and onion. Uzbekistan's bread, or non, comes in all shapes and sizes and is somewhat similar to nan, the bread of India. Green tea is the national hot beverage, taken throughout the day at teahouses (chaikhanas). Ayran, a chilled yogurt drink, is also popular. Availability of wine at restaurants is very limited. At the guesthouse we stay in the Nurata Mountains, there is no alcohol available but our hosts do not mind if we bring our own.

TRANSPORTATION

Our private van(s) transport the group's luggage, so you only need to carry a backpack for items you need for the day

AVERAGE DAILY MAX/MIN °F												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Samarkand	43/26	46/28	57/38	69/48	80/55	90/62	93/64	90/61	82/52	70/43	59/36	49/30
Tashkent	44/29	49/32	59/41	72/50	82/57	92/64	96/68	95/64	85/55	71/46	59/39	48/32
RAINFALL - INCHES												
Samarkand	1.7	1.5	2.8	2.5	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.9	1.1	1.6
Tashkent	2.1	2.5	2.7	2.4	1/6	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.9	1.7	2.3

What the Trip is Like (cont'd)

(water bottle, camera, sweater, etc.). Roads in Uzbekistan are generally well paved; however, there will be times, especially in the Nurata Mountains, where they will become quite bumpy. There are multiple long drives throughout the trip and two short internal flights. The advantage of moving around the country as much as we do in this journey is that it allows us to experience the best of the wide diversity of regions, history, and culture that Uzbekistan has to offer. Note: Smaller groups will be in a van; for larger groups we use a comfortable bus.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Asia Manager or email us at asia@wildernesstravel.com.

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REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

TOUCAN CLUB

We're proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business! The Wilderness Travel Toucan Club was established to reward our travelers for their loyalty. For details, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

Here's how it works:

YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.



MEN'S T-SHIRT



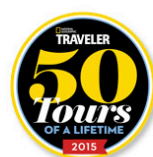
WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Condé Nast Traveler*, 2024, 4-time winner

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 11-time winner

Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*

Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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