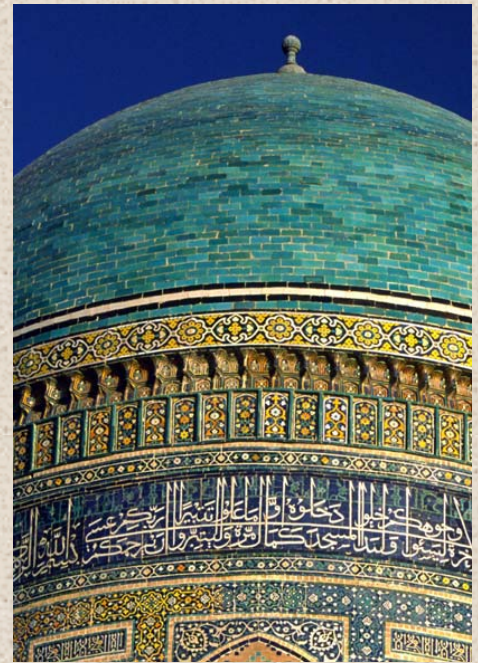


# Uzbekistan – Fabled Cities of the Silk Road

Tour Code UZ

## Departing 24 September 2010

From the blue-tiled splendour of Tamerlane's Samarkand to the holy city of Bukhara, boasting a mosque for each day of the year, and beyond, the romantic desert-girdled khanate of Khiva, Uzbekistan lays claim to a breathtaking architectural legacy. Such splendours have attracted and astonished visitors since ancient times and this detailed journey is planned to allow time to relax and fully appreciate these awe inspiring fabled cities of the Silk Road. Time is spent in the beautiful Ferghana Valley, in the heart of Uzbekistan, home to distinctive local architecture and traditional crafts from silk-weaving to pottery.



Stunning tilework, Bukhara  
© www.syderimages.com

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Fly to Tashkent – Friday 24 September

Evening departure from Heathrow Terminal 2 with Uzbekistan Airways for our direct flight to Tashkent.

### Day 2 In Tashkent - Saturday 25 September

Morning arrival in Tashkent and transfer to the Dedeman Silk Road hotel for two nights. We spend the afternoon in Uzbekistan's capital, the largest city in Central Asia, at the impressive History museum and the grand Independence Square. Welcome dinner in a smart city restaurant (B,D)

### Day 3 In Tashkent - Sunday 26 September

We start the morning with a visit to the bustling Chorsu Bazaar, the largest in Tashkent before continuing to the Museum of Applied Arts housed in a delightful building in traditional Uzbek style. The afternoon is spent in the old city of Tashkent to view its impressive complex of ancient madressahs. In the early evening we will be able to enjoy an inspiring performance at the Alisher Navoi Opera and Ballet theatre. Dinner in the hotel (B,D)

### Day 4 Fly to Urgench. In Khiva – Monday 27 September

Morning transfer to the airport for our flight to Urgench. Drive to Khiva for a leisurely two nights in the Malika hotel, located close to the main gate of this most complete of the Silk Road cities. Afternoon tour of Khiva with its stunning array of medieval mosques, madressahs and palaces. Dinner in hotel (B,D)

### Day 5 In Khiva – Tuesday 28 September

Morning tour of the ancient monuments of Khiva including the stunning Jummi or Friday mosque and the elaborate Khiva Ark. After lunch you will have time to explore this fabled city at one's own pace. Dinner in a local restaurant (B,D)

### Day 6 Drive to Bukhara – Wednesday 29 September

A full day of driving today through the Kizilikum desert, crossing the ancient Oxus River before arriving at Bukhara. Three nights stay at the Sultan hotel, located in the heart of the historic old city, part of the architectural complex known as Lyabi-Khauz . Dinner at a local restaurant (B,D)

### Day 7 In Bukhara – Thursday 30 September

This morning's tour visits one of the great Asian cities of antiquity. Starting at the vast Arg Citadel, fortress of the Bukharan Khans before a short drive to the stunning Summer Palace of the Last Emir. The afternoon is spent at leisure to visit the bazaars and soak up the atmosphere of this fabled city. Dinner in an ancient madrasa accompanied by a folkloric show (B,D)

**Patrick Syder Travel**

Escorted Cultural Tours – Zenobia House, 23 Bowmans Close, Steyning, West Sussex BN44 3SR

Tel/Fax: +44 (0)1903 879737 email: info@sydertravel.com www.sydertravel.com

**Day 8 In Bukhara - Friday 1 October**

A second morning of sightseeing to the heart of the city's historic centre to marvel at the huge Kalyan minaret, and nearby mosque, the unique Chor Minor and an array of jade domed and elaborately tiled madrassas. A further free afternoon at leisure to wonder at Bukhara's stunning ancient architectural past. Dinner in ancient madressa accompanied by classical recitals (B,D)

**Day 9 Drive to Samarkand via Shahr-I-Sabz - Saturday 2 October**

Morning drive to Shahr-I-Sabz, Tamerlane's birthplace and his second capital where we visit the remains of his colossal Summer Palace. After lunch we visit to the blue domed 15<sup>th</sup> century mausoleum of Janangir continue to the legendary city of Samarkand. Two-night stay at the Malika hotel situated very close to the famous Registan Square. Dinner in the hotel (B,D)

**Day 10 In Samarkand - Sunday 3 October**

This morning's sightseeing starts at Tamerlane's tomb, a jewel of Islamic art, before arriving at the magnificent Registan Square, the noblest square in Central Asia. We finish the tour at the beautifully decorated Bibi Khanym or Friday Mosque and old local bazaar. The afternoon is left free to further explore this fabled city, perhaps to return the short distance back to the fabulous Registan Square. Dinner at a local restaurant (B,D)

**Day 11 In Samarkand. Drive to Tashkent - Monday 4 October**

Spending the morning in Samarkand, we visit Ulug Beg's Observatory, the Afrosiyab Museum and finish at the beautiful 14<sup>th</sup> century mausoleum complex of Shah-I-Zinda. After lunch depart for Tashkent to overnight at the Dedeman Silk Road hotel. Dinner in the hotel (B,D)

**Day 12 Fly to Andijan. Drive to Ferghana Valley - Tuesday 5 October**

We have a morning flight to Andijan, proceeding by bus to the ancient site of Kuva before a scenic drive through Uzbekistan's 'Golden Valley' to Ferghana. Two nights at the Asia hotel with dinner (B,D)

**Day 13 In Ferghana - Wednesday 6 October**

Surrounded by the Tien- Shan mountains, Ferghana has the most picturesque setting and this morning we have a tour of its highlights including its excellent museum of Folklore and History. In the afternoon we visit nearby Margilan, renowned for its silk-weaving and Rishtan, for its pottery (B,D)

**Day 14 Drive to Tashkent - Thursday 7 October**

We return to the capital today driving via Kokand, the ancient gateway to the Ferghana Valley, before crossing the Darya river that feeds the great expanse of orchards, cotton fields and mulberry trees we pass. Overnight at the Dedeman Silk Road hotel. Farewell dinner at a smart local restaurant (B,D)

**Day 15 Fly London - Friday 8 October**

We have a leisurely breakfast and morning at leisure before our lunchtime transfer to the airport for our afternoon flight with Uzbekistan Airways arriving into Heathrow Terminal 2 in the evening (B)

**Cost £1595.00** per person in a twin room (excludes international flight)

Single supplement charge £200.00

**Price includes –**

- ▶ Tour accompanied by Patrick Syder from London
- ▶ Specialist Uzbek guide throughout the tour
- ▶ Two Uzbekistan Airline domestic flights
- ▶ All transportation - private a/c minibus
- ▶ Full sightseeing programme including entrance fees
- ▶ Quality local four star hotels on a half board basis with many dinners at traditional restaurants
- ▶ All airport transfers
- ▶ Porter, hotel and restaurant staff gratuities

Not included – travel insurance, visa fees, drinks, lunches, guide and driver gratuities, departure taxes, Uzbekistan Airlines international flight (cost from £500.00 with Polani Travel or direct from airline)

[Click here for booking form](#)

