

## "The Gem of the East"



**Itinerary:** Tashkent - Urgench(Khiva) - Bukhara - Shakhrisabz - Samarkand - Tashkent

**Duration:** 8days/ 7 nights

### Day 1 Tashkent

P.M. Arrival to Tashkent by evening flight. Meeting at the airport with tour escort guide and transfer to the hotel. Accommodation and o/n at hotel . Meals: HB.

### Day 2 Tashkent- Urgench (KHiva)

A.M. Breakfast in hotel. City sightseeing Uzbek capital with:

Start excursion with **Hasti Imam Mausoleum**.

**Monument "Courage"** - this is the monument to

the victims of the earthquake in 1967, after which Tashkent was wholly reconstructed, **Mustakillik**

**Square** - former "Red Squire" the main square of the Tashkent with the monument to victims of the

WW II, **Drujba Narodov Square** (Friendship of Nations) - the square with the modern buildings of

Parliament and monument to Shahmad Shomahmudov, man who adopted 15 orphans of

different nations during WW., **Navoi Theatre Square**- by

1940, Soviet planners had decided a theatre would greatly

enhance an area known as the Drunken Bazaar for its wine-soaked market. Japanese prisoners of war completed

construction in 1947, **Barak Khan Madrassah** (XVI c) it is headquarters of the Sunni Mufti of ex Sogdian Central Asia &

Kazakhstan. It is interesting with its mosaic and Arabic calligraphy on its late 16 cent. Brick facade and the intricately carved doors made by Samarkand craftsmen.

Transfer to Airport, flight to Urgench by HY-1057 on

18:20.-20:00. Transfer to Khiva. Arrival, accommodation in

hotel. Dinner at local restaurant. Meals: HB.



### Day 3. Khiva

A.M. Breakfast in hotel. **Khiva** - is an odd place. Its historic heart, unlike those of other

Central Asian cities, is preserved in its entirety - but so well preserved that the life has almost been squeezed out of it. Khiva consist of two parts: **Ichan Kala** ( inside town) and **Dishan Kala** ( outside town) ancient city museum on the open sky and start of sightseeing:

**Muhammad Amin Khan Medressa and Kalta Minor** - the first building in the entering of city on the right built in the 1850 and serving since Soviet time as the hotel Khiva. **Djuma mosque** (X - XVII c) a cathedral mosque, the roof of which lies on 212 wooden fretted columns with unique acoustics and original technical ideas natural of lighting Mausoleum of Seyid Alaudin (XIV c) with its gravestone made from colored majolica in unique among world architectural ceramics; **Kunya ark** (XVII c) - an inner fortress with administrative buildings, gunpowder works, law courts, mosque. **Pakhlavan Makhmud complex** (XIV - XIX c) - the most remarkable architecture memorial complex in Khiva with unique tiles. **Islam Khodja minaret and madrassah** (1908) - 45 m high is the highest building in Khiva with, the observation area. **P.M.** In the afternoon continue of sightseeing in Khiva incl :

**Nurulla Bai Palace** 1906-1912 the fortified courtyard of Isfandiyar Khan's residence today languish in a largely sorry state of disrepair, but the modern-style reception hall is still in good condition

**Dinner at local restaurant. Meals: HB**

#### Day 4. Khiva - Bukhara (430 km)

**A.M.** Breakfast in hotel.

*Morning departure to Bukhara by coach through flora and fauna of Kyzyl Kum desert. For centuries it marked the northern limits of Transoxiana and the edge of the boundless nomadic steppe. You will see Amu Darya one of the two second river of Central Asia separating the Kyzyl Kum from the Kara Kum of Tukrmenistan.*



**P.M.** Arrival to Bukhara in the afternoon. Lunch.



**Bukhara** - this is one of the best places in Central Asia which was as capital of Samanid state in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries that called "Bukhoro-i Sharif" Boasting a different mosque for every day of the year, drawing the finest minds of the East with its cultural and commercial vitality, the city well deserved the title "Bukhara the Holy".

S/S in Bukhara:

Dinner at hotel. O/n in hotel. Meals: HB

#### Day 5. Bukhara

**A.M.** Breakfast in hotel.

Continue of sightseeing in Bukhara incl: **ARK Fortress** (VI - XIX c) - in middle ages it was a whole town with the emirs house, with wives, mosques mint place, government institutes, store rooms, a prison and a square for public executions: **Bolo Khauz Mosque** (1712) Mosque Near the Pool. **Samanid's mausoleum** (IX - X c) - it was the first building in Central Asia constructed from backed bricks in the shape of a cube covered by a dome with unrepeatable geometrical brickwork design - a masterpiece of world architecture **Chashma Ayub Mausoleum** - the original construction dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century rule of Karakhanid Arslan Khan, the earliest surviving dome was raised by Amir Temur in 1380 over the existing tomb chamber. **Poikalon** (XII - XVI c) architectural ensemble in the center of old Bukhara -



includes the cathedral mosque "Masjidi Kalon", "Miri Arab" madrasah and the highest minaret (46 m) at that time in the Orient. **Ulugbek Madrassah** 1417 was the earliest of three commissioned by the enlightened Timutid ruler (the other two stand in Samarkand and Gijduvan) and his secular influence dominates the exterior design of the religious college. **Abdul Aziz Khan Madrassah** (1652), glittering in mercifully unrestored 17<sup>th</sup> century glory

**P.M.** In the afternoon continue of city tour in Bukhara incl: **Tim Abdullakhan** was built in 1577 and was one of the most elegant trade halls in Bukhara where silk and wool was sold by Afghan trades. **Trading Domes** consists of three trading centers: Tok-i-Zargaron (1570) - Jeweler's Bazaar, Tok-i-Tilpak Furushon - Cap Maker's Bazaar, Tok-i-Sarrafon - Moneychanger's Bazaar. **Magoki Attori** - in 937 the four-pillared mosque was burn the ground in a city-wide fire and in the 12<sup>th</sup> century the present mosque was erected, from which the focus of the mosque, the original southern portal remains. **Laby Khauz complexe**

**Visit folklore show at Madrassah Nodir Dewon Begi.** Dinner at local restaurant. O/n in hotel. Meals: HB



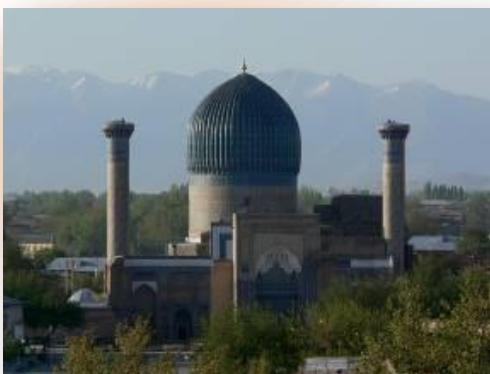
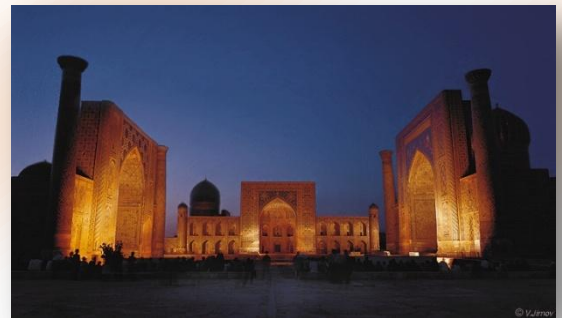
### Day 6. Bukhara - Samarkand (284 km)

**A.M.** Breakfast in hotel. Departure to Samarkand.

**PM.** Arrival & accommodation at hotel. **Samarkand** - the Eden of ancient East, the most precious pearl in the Islamic world. Samarkand - called Marakanda in the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC, whoever tried to conquer it! During the centuries the city has been invaded by troops of Alexander the Great, Arabian invaders, Chingiz Khan and Tamerlane. Today romance of Samarkand still works its magic, alluring the traveler with a dreamlike quality.

Lunch and start SS: city of blue domes Samarkand with: **Registan Square** (XV-XVIIc) official center of Timur Empire, consist of grandious madrasahs of Ulugbek, Sher Dor & Tillya Kari. **Gur Amir mausoleum** (XV c) Timurids dynastic burial vault. A unique monument of arhitecture with blue ribbed teessellated dome.

Dinner at local restaurant. O/n in hotel. Meals: HB



### Day 7. Samarkand - Tashkent (360 km)

**A.M.** Breakfast in hotel. Continue sightseeing in Samarkand: **Ulugbek's Observatory** (XV c) 1<sup>st</sup> observatory in orient with 30m sextant built by Ulugbek to make exact astronomical catalogue. **Shahi Zinda mausoleum** (XIV-XV c) 'Town of Dead' a complex of more than 20 unique buildings of different ages. **Bibi Khanym mosque** **Oriental Bazar "Siab"**

**P.M. Lunch.** Drive to Tashkent. Arrival & accommodation in hotel. Dinner at local restaurant. Meals: HB

## Day 8. Tashkent

**A.M.** Transfer to the airport for flight home.

<u>Tour cost for "standart" category without Tour Leader :</u>	<u>Tour cost for "standart" category with Tour Leader:</u>
2 pax: 1133 \$ per person 3-8 pax: 891 \$ per person 9-15 pax: 770 \$ per person 16-21 pax: 724 \$ per person 22-30 pax: 669 \$ per person 31-40 pax 627 \$ per person	2 pax: 1133 \$ per person 3-8 pax: 891 \$ per person 9-15+1 pax: 825 \$ per person 16-21+1 pax: 755 \$ per person 22-30+1 pax: 693 \$ per person 31-40+1 pax 644 \$ per person
Single supplement: 159 \$ p/pax/room Supp. For full board: 98 \$ p/pax	Single supplement: 159 \$ p/pax/room Supp. For full board: 98 \$ p/pax

### Tour cost includes:

1. Accommodations in twin/double room basis
2. All land transportation by air-conditioned vehicle
3. English speaking escorted guides services (or guide with another language)
4. Excursion and entrance fees to historical monuments as per itinerary
5. Meals: half board
6. Folklore show in Bukhara Nodir Devon Begi Madrassah
7. Invitation for visa or visa support letter
8. Refreshments such as: coffee, tea and mineral water
9. Portages service fees at hotels and air-ports

### Tour Cost do not includes:

1. International air-fares
2. Domestic air-fare: Tashkent-Urgench
3. Theatre of Historical costumes "El Merosi" in Samarkand
4. Single supplement
5. Visa fees
6. Photo and camera charges in monuments
7. Travel Insurance
8. Tips for guide and Drivers

Note:

- A) Transportation service and vehicle type
1. For 2 pax: air-conditioned car
  2. For 3-8 pax: air-conditioned minibus with 6-11 seats
  3. For 9-15 pax: air-conditioned mini-coach with 18-25 seats
  4. For 16-21 pax and more: air-conditioned coach with 30-45 seats

B) Tour cost valid from 1 March 2014 till the 31 October of 2014y.

**C) Name of all hotels in mentioned as below:**

**Hotels in Tashkent: Shodlik / Uzbekistan or similar**

**Hotels in Khiva: Hotel Orient Star/Hotel Asia Khiva or similar**

**Hotel in Bukhara: Malika Bukhara / Asia Bukhara/Omar Hayyam or similar**

**Hotels in Samarkand: Hotel Diyora/Hotel Asia Samarkand/ Grand Samarkand / Majestik Palace hotel , Arba or similar**