



Uzbekistan

ORIENTAL FLAIR ALONG THE SILK ROAD



Rich history and fascinating culture complemented by natural diversity from mountain passes to deserts and oases bring dreams of the Orient to life in Uzbekistan.

The Import Promotion Desk (IPD) supports European tour operators in their search for exceptional touristic products in Uzbekistan and provides contacts to carefully screened, sustainable tourism companies. Get an overview about the great possibilities of Uzbekistan for your touristic product development and get in contact with our Sustainable Tourism Specialists.

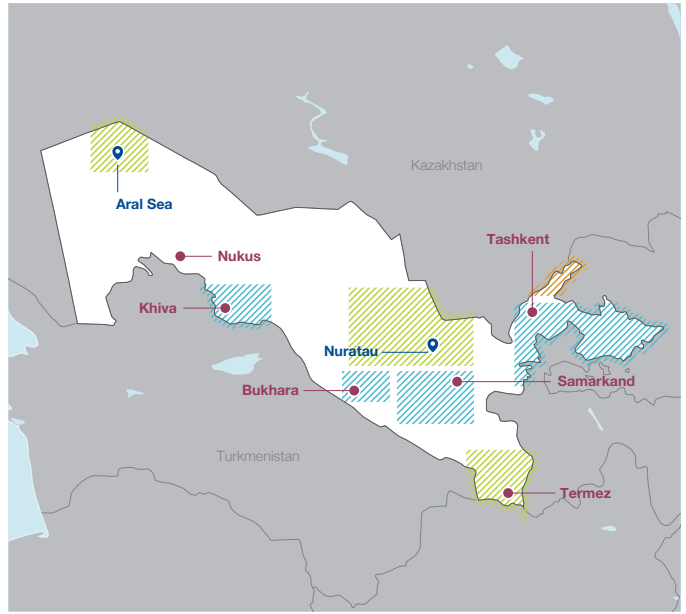
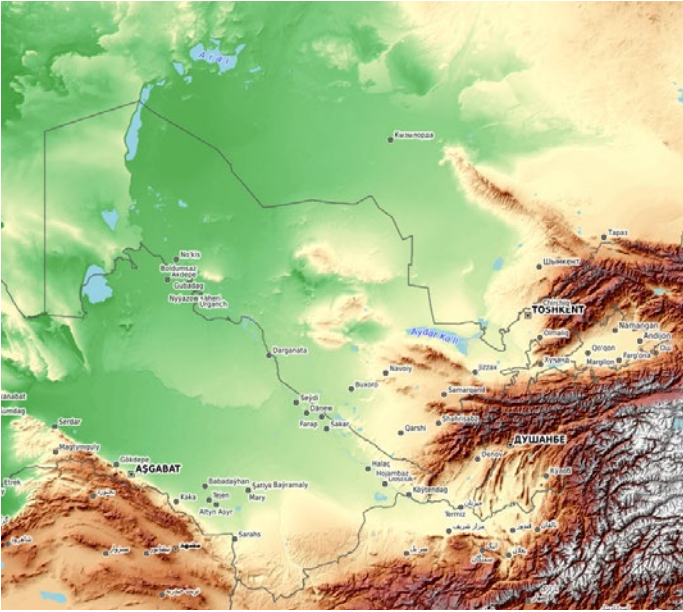
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Natural diversity: Mountain passes, fruity valleys, deserts and oases



OVERVIEW




Uzbekistan is the perfect destination for travelers interested in culture, history  and outstanding architecture. The Fergana Valley, famous for its traditions and handicraft, the capital Tashkent and the old cities of Samarkand, Bukhara and Shakhrisabz are only some stops to explore the old Silk Road charm. All the way westwards to the desert fortresses, high class museums and ruin cities around Khiva, Uzbekistan offers various cultural highlights.

For active travelers,  the Chimgan Region north of the capital Tashkent is the place to visit. Rock climbing, trekking, rafting and winter sports come with a breathtaking landscape.

For nature  and outdoor enthusiasts the Naratau Mountains and the Boysun Mountains are just perfect. Hiking in beautiful nature and cultural experiences by visiting one of the traditional villages along the way, can be combined here easily. Close to the Lake Aydarkul visitors can start their treks to the Kyzyl Kum Desert and experience a night in a yurt camp.



DISTANCES

			
Tashkent – Nukus	14h45'	16h (overnight)	1h40'
Tashkent – Termez	10h15'	14h (overnight)	1h20'
Tashkent – Samarkand	4h30'	2h15'	1h






BEST TIME TO VISIT UZBEKISTAN

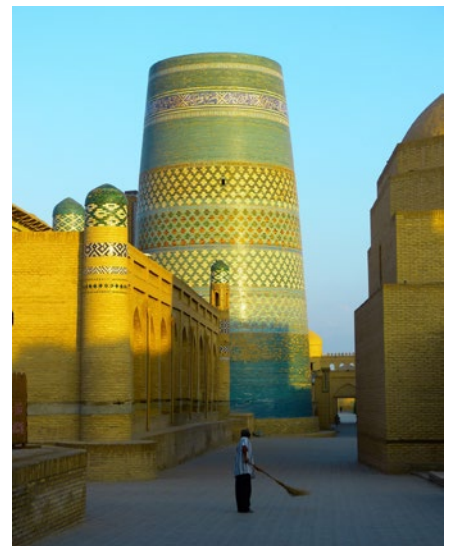
The best season to visit Uzbekistan for a round trip is in April and May or September and October. The comfortable temperatures are complemented in **spring** with flourishing landscapes full of wildflowers, poppies and tulips, while in **autumn** during the harvest time the markets are full of local fruits. From November to February, it can get cold in Uzbekistan, but a blue sky and nearly no tourists make this time of the year perfect for photography. March is usually quite rainy.

Most tourists come to Uzbekistan for the fascinating culture and the silk road charm. Further, there are more things to experience on a round trip. **Desert treks** from lake Aydarkul to yurt camps can be combined with **birdwatching** and camel rides. The temperatures in the desert are best from March to May and in September and October.

In between, from December to March, **skiing** and heli-skiing are popular activities. **Hiking** and climbing treks should be done with a Guide. For lower altitudes spring and autumn are the best time to hike, above 3,000 meters the summer months are recommended. Rivers for **rafting and kayaking** can be found for all experience levels. Best time for watersports is April and May. For more adventurous travelers will find wild rivers during the glacier melting time from August to October.

A SELECTION OF ACTIVITIES IN UZBEKISTAN BY SEASON:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
 Hiking				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
 Climbing						✓	✓	✓				
 Rafting and Kayaking				✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
 Skiing	✓	✓	✓									✓
 Desert Treks				✓	✓				✓	✓		



AVERAGE COSTS

Coffee	1.50 €
Lunch	2 – 4 €
Tip restaurant	10 – 15 % (often included)
Taxi (5 km)	1 – 2 €
Trekking with guide (per day)	50 €
Entrance fee Main museums & Sights	1 – 3 €

**FESTIVALS IN UZBEKISTAN**

Spring is the main festival season in Uzbekistan. One of the main national holidays is the Central Asian **New Year** celebration “Navruz” on the 21st of March. This family festival is also celebrated in the streets with music and dance. Cultural festivals with reference to the old traditions of Uzbekistan and the time of the great Silk Road are an interesting experience and special enrichment for every roundtrip. For example, the **Silk and Spices Festival** in Buchara or the Bahori Festival in Boysun are great occasions to experience the living cultural heritage of Uzbekistan.

**CULTURAL INSIGHTS**

- + Bread (Uzbek: non) has a special status in Uzbekistan and is served with every meal. The round flatbreads are tied to a multitude of rules of etiquette. Bread always comes first on the table and is never cut with a knife, but broken into pieces by the head of the family or the highest-ranking person. One should buy bread in an even number and put it on top of the shopping bag. If you see a piece of bread lying on the street, you should pick it up so that no one steps on it.
- + Uzbekistan is known for its beautiful fabrics, especially silk and adras (a silk-cotton mixture) have a long tradition here and are produced with great pride and craftsmanship. It is very important for Uzbeks to dress well, so tourists should also pay attention to clean, neat clothes. Even though Uzbekistan is a Muslim country, the dress code in the urban areas is relatively relaxed. Western women are not necessarily expected to wear a headscarf, but it shows respect for their hosts in the rural areas to cover their hair loosely with a light shawl – the beautiful, embroidered silk scarfs of Uzbekistan are just perfect for this purpose.

FLIGHT CONNECTION: EUROPE – UZBEKISTAN

Tashkent is the main international airport of Uzbekistan with direct flights to Europe. Therefore, it is also the usual starting point of round trips. All flight connections can be seen at this [interactive Map](#). In addition, the cities of Bukhara, Samarkand and Urgench can be reached directly via Istanbul.

	Accessibility	Direct flights from Europe:
TOSHKENT XALQARO AEROPORTI TASHKENT (TAS)	The 30-minute taxi ride to the city center costs about 4 €.	Frankfurt (FRA) – Tashkent (TAS): 6h 15' London (LHR) – Tashkent (TAS): 6h 50' Riga (RIX) – Tashkent (TAS): 5h 00' Paris (CDG) – Tashkent (TAS): 6h 50' Stop over destinations from Europe are mainly: Turkey (Istanbul) and Georgia (Tbilisi)
URGENCH XALQARO AEROPORTI URGENCH (UGC)	The 15-minute taxi ride to the city center costs about 2 €.	London (LHR) – Urgench (UGC): 6h 40' Stop over destination from Europe: Turkey (Istanbul)
BUXORO XALQARO AEROPORTI BUCHARA (BHK)	The 10-minute taxi ride to the city center costs about 1 €.	No direct flights; Stop over destination from Europe: Turkey (Istanbul)
SAMARKAND	The 20-minute taxi ride to the city center costs about 7 €.	No direct flights; Stop over destination from Europe: Turkey (Istanbul)

**USEFUL LINKS**

- + [Distances and travel time in Uzbekistan](#)
- + [Media Center Uzbekistan](#)
- + [More free pictures of Uzbekistan](#)
- + [Embassies in Uzbekistan](#)
- + [Registration form for tourists in Uzbekistan](#)
- + [Visa-free entry procedure](#)
- + [Interactive map of flight connections to Uzbekistan](#)
- + [Medical Information: Health & Vaccination](#)
- + [COVID-19 entry regulations Uzbekistan](#)

VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR EUROPEAN UNION CITIZENS

All tourists from the European Union, including Great Britain and Switzerland can enter Uzbekistan for **30 days without a visa**.

- + Tourists need a passport, valid 6 months from the day of arrival.

[Further information about the entry procedure in English.](#)

CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Money & ATM	Sufficient cash is important in Uzbekistan, as many things can still only be paid for in cash. Cash can be easily withdrawn from ATMs, which can be found in many corners, at least in the cities. In hotels and restaurants, you can usually pay by credit card, with Visa being the most common type.	
Internet	Most hotels offer free Wifi, often with limited speed. Local prepaid SIM cards are available at the airport and in many shops. Prepaid SIM cards cost around 3 € with 8 GB of data and free minutes for local calls. To buy a local prepaid SIM card, a passport needed.	
Electricity	220 volts AC; Many sockets are only two-pin and narrow, which requires an adapter.	
Drinking water	The tap water is not for drinking. Travelers should use bottled water, which is available in shops and on markets. A drinking bottle to refill, can avoid plastic waste.	
Equipment/Packing list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Passport + Sun protection for skin and lips + Hat and sunglasses + Comfortable shoes for sightseeing + Trekking shoes + Electric adapter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Camera + Backpack for daytrips + Torch light + First aid kit + Decent clothes and shawl for some sights
Opening hours	Shops and malls are open from 8am to 11pm. Smaller shops and restaurants are usually open until late, seven days a week. Banks and authorities are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. Most sights and museums are open 9am to 6pm and are closed on Sundays or Mondays	
Emergency numbers	Ambulance: 103 Fire brigade: 101	Police: 102
Health & vaccination	Detailed medical information for a trip to Uzbekistan	
COVID-19 regulations	The interactive map by IATA gives information about the current COVID-19 related entry requirements for tourists in Uzbekistan.	

If you would like to learn more about our partner companies from Uzbekistan get in touch with us.
We will connect you with carefully screened tourism companies.

CONTACT

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IPD – Import Promotion Desk
c/o sequa gGmbH

Alexanderstr. 10
53111 Bonn
Germany

Telephone: +49 228 909 0081-0
email: info@importpromotiondesk.de



www.importpromotiondesk.de



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