15 Days Kazakhstan - Kyrgyzstan - Tajikistan - Uzbekistan - Turkmenistan

Countries:Kazakhstan - Kyrgyzstan - Tajikistan - Uzbekistan - TurkmenistanTour duration:15 days / 14 nightsBest time to travel:March - June; September - NovemberItinerary of individual tour:Nur-Sultan (Astana) - Almaty - Bishkek - Ala-Archa Gorge - Bishkek - Dushanbe - Khujand -- Tashkent - Samarkand - Bukhara - Mary - AshgabatAshgabat - Kow-Ata underground lake - Darwaza gas crater - Ashgabat - Mary - Merv ancient city -- Bukhara - Samarkand - Penjikent - Samarkand - Tashkent - Kokand - Rishtan - Osh - Bishkek - Burana Tower - Issyk-Kul Lake -Karakol - Charyn canyon - Almaty

GUARANTEE DATES OF GROUP TOUR 2020

Group №1. **04.05 - 18.05.2020** Group №2. **08.06 - 22.06.2020** Group №3. **24.08 - 07.09.2020** Group №4. **14.09 - 28.09.2020**

GUARANTEE DATES OF GROUP TOUR 2019: 16.09 - 30.09.2019



The **Five Stans adventure** is amazing **travel itinerary** through the five former USSR republics of **Kazakhstan - Kyrgyzstan -Tajikistan - Uzbekistan - Turkmenistan**, also known as the Stans, includes the **main tourist attractions** and must-visit destinations at the **centre of the Silk Road**. This region is unified by the common past and a number of similar traditions; nevertheless, each of the countries is highly unique and characterised by a range of distinctive features.

This **tour of Central Asia** is offered in two versions: you can opt for an **individual tour** or **join a group** on a tour on fixed guaranteed dates. Each of the tours lasts **15 days**, during which period you will visit all the **five republics**. However, the versions differ in contents, that is, places of interest you will visit, as each of the countries is truly rich in unique natural and historical objects.

These are the best itineraries to **visit Central Asia** and its impressive historical monuments and nature's beauties, taste traditional food and enjoy the unique local culture of hospitality!

Explore the Best of Central Asia!

Itinerary of individual tour:

	Itinerary:			
Day 1.	Ashgabat, arrival. Day trip to Kow-Ata underground lake. Arrival in Ashgabat early in the morning. Meet at the airport and further group transfer to the hotel. Accommodation and rest. After breakfast meet the local guide. Today we make a day trip to Nohur village, located in Kopetdag Mountains - here we visit tribal cemetery and pilgrim site; get acquainted with the local craftsmen, specializing in silk weaving. En route to Nohur village - visit Turkmenbashi mosque-			

	mausoleum and Kow-Ata underground lake. Return to Ashgabat in the evening. Overnight at the	
	hotel.	
Day 2.	Ashgabat - Darwaza gas crater - Ashgabat (road transfer, 600 km). After breakfast start of the half-day sightseeing tour around the city. Visit National Museum of Turkmenistan, Nissa ancient fortress (UNESCO Heritage site), Independence Park and Neutrality Arch. After lunch transfer to the most unique site in Central Asia - Darwaza burning gas crater.	~
	Arrival in Darwaza before sunset. Enjoy barbeque dinner near the burning gas crater; watch and make photos of the crater during the nighttime. Return to Ashgabat (slow driving after dark). Arrival at the hotel before or just after midnight. Overnight at the hotel.	
	Ashgabat - Mary (morning flight) - Merv ancient city - "Farap" - Bukhara (road transfer, 385 km).	
Day 3.	After breakfast meet the guide and further transfer to the airport; flight to Mary. Upon arrival - transfer to visit the ancient city of Merv, which is also included into the list UNESCO Heritage Sites. Exploring the region. Further transfer to the land border with Uzbekistan. Border formalities. Meet Uzbek team of guide and driver and further transfer to Bukhara. Accommodation at the hotel on arrival. Rest and overnight.	~
	Bukhara. After breakfast start of the guided sightseeing tour around Bukhara: Ismail Samani Mausoleum,	
Day 4.	Chashma Ayub Mausoleum, Bolo Khauz Mosque, Ark Citadel, Po-i-Kalyan Complex (Kalyan Minaret and others), Ulugbek Madrasah, Abdulaziz-Khan Madrasah. After lunch visit Lyab-i Hauz Architectural Ensemble, Kukeldash Madrasah, Nadir Divan-Begi Madrasah, domed shopping arcade. Return to the hotel for rest and overnight.	~
	Bukhara - Samarkand (road transfer, 280 km). Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Samarkand which will take around 5 hours. On arrival - start of	
Day 5.	the sightseeing tour in Samarkand. Visit the main pride of the city - Registan Square, most famous square in Central Asia (Ulugbek Madrasah, Sher-Dor Madrasah, Tilla-Qori Madrasah); and Gur-e Amir Mausoleum, Tamerlane's final resting place. Accommodation at the hotel in late afternoon. Rest and overnight in Samarkand.	~
	Samarkand.	
Day 6.	Breakfast at the hotel. Meet the guide; continuation of the city tour in Samarkand. Visit Bibi-Khanym Mosque, Shah-i-Zinda Necropolis, Ulugbek Observatory. After lunch visit Afrosiab museum and settlement, Saint Daniel's tomb and Silk paper workshop. Return to the hotel. Rest and overnight.	~
	Samarkand - "Jartepa" land border - Penjikent - Samarkand (road transfer, 120 km in both directions).	
Day 7.	After early breakfast we take a day trip to Tajikistan - the important part of ancient Sogdiana. In the morning - transfer to the land border with Tajikistan. Border formalities. Meet Tajik guide and driver and drive to the region of Seven Lakes. The Seven Lakes are located in the west of Fann mountains; each of them has its own color. At the last of Seven Lakes - Khozorchashma Lake we enjoy a picnic. After lunch drive to Penjikent. Sightseeing in Penjikent includes visiting of the following sites: Rudaki Museum, local Bazaar and mosque. Further visit ancient Penjikent which was a major Sogdian city and was destroyed by Arab conqueror. By the evening - return to the land border with Uzbekistan. Border formalities and transfer to the hotel. Rest and overnight.	~
	Samarkand - Tashkent (road transfer 330 km).	
Day 8.	Breakfast at the hotel. Road transfer to Tashkent. On arrival - start exploring the capital city of Uzbekistan. Visit Minor white Mosque, Independence Square, Amir Timur Square and Tashkent metro. Accommodation at the hotel in the evening. Overnight in Tashkent.	~
	Tashkent - Kokand (train 060, 08:07-12:13) - Rishtan - "Dustlik" land border - Osh (road transfer, 195 km).	
Day 9.	After early breakfast transfer to the railway station for further transfer to Kokand by train (modern carriages, normal speed, seated places). On arrival in Kokand - one of the ancient cities of Fergana valley, start the city tour. Visit Palace of Khudayar Khan, Mausoleum of Modari Khan, Juma Mosque. After lunch transfer to the land border with Kyrgyzstan. Border formalities. Meet Kyrgyz team of guide and driver and further transfer to Osh. Accommodation at the hotel. Rest and overnight in Osh.	~
	Osh - Bishkek (midday flight). City tours in Osh and Bishkek.	
Day 10.	After breakfast meet the guide and start the city tour in Osh. Visit Suleiman Mount, one of the main shrines of the Islamic world in Central Asia. On the mount visit to a historical museum, located in the main cave. After that walk up the hill and watch a little mosque of Babur, The Great Mogols Dynasty founder, and take a bird eye's view of the city. After lunch transfer to the airport and flight to Bishkek. On arrival - short sightseeing tour and transfer to the hotel. Accommodation and overnight at the hotel in Bishkek.	~
Day 11.	Bishkek - Burana Tower - Issyk-Kul Lake (road transfer, 280 km). Breakfast at the hotel. Meet the guide and driver and drive to the second largest alpine lake in the world - Issyk-Kul Lake. On the way visit the ruins of the ancient city Balasagyn and Burana tower. Upon arrival accommodation at the hotel and rest.	~
Day 12.	Issyk-Kul - Karakol (road transfer, 150 km). Breakfast at the hotel. Start driving to Karakol. On the route visit the museum of Petroglyph's in Cholpon-Ata and museum of the famous Russian explorer of Central Asia N.M. Prjevalsky. Upon	~
KENT	arrival city tour in Karakol. Visit a Dungan mosque(19century), a unique construction built in	

Day 13.	Chinese style with no nails used. Also, see the wooden Russian Orthodox Cathedral of The Holy Trinity built at the end of the 19th century. Walk around the central bazaar to feel the real life of the city. Accommodation at the hotel. Karakol - "Kegen" - Charyn canyon - Almaty (road transfer, 380 km). Early breakfast at the hotel. Departure from Karakol at 08:00. Transfer to the land border with Kazakhstan. Border formalities. Further transfer to Almaty. En route visit spectacular Charyn Canyon. The Charyn Canyon is located in the Charyn National Park about 215 km east of Almaty and approximately a 3 hour drive via the A 351 and A 352. The Canyon has been described as the Grand Canyon's little brother. The Canyon itself is approximately 150 km long, and, in places up to 300 meters deep. One area of particular interest is an area of 2 km called the Valley of Castles, due to the pillars and rock formations forming imposing, almost man-made structures. Arrival in Almaty by the evening. Accommodation and overnight.	~	
Day 14.	Almaty (city tour including Falcons' show). Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, start of the sightseeing tour about Almaty (10 hours). Visit the following places: the Green Bazaar, Panfilov Park, Zenkov Cathedral, the Memorial of Glory and Eternal Flame. Next visit of the Kok-Tobe hill with the tallest TV tower in the world. Short ride from the top of the hill to the center of the city by the famous Almaty cableway. After lunch transfer to the most beautiful lakes, located in the surroundings of Almaty - Big Almaty Lake. Arrival to the Lake and slight hiking in the surroundings. En route visit to "Sunkar" Falcons' Farm to watch the show with hunting birds. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight.	~	
Day 15.	Almaty, departure. Transfer to the International airport of Almaty. Departure from Kazakhstan.		

COST OF THE TOUR 2019:

The cost of the tour for 1 person	2778 USD
SGL accommodation	+ 429 USD

*This tour is guaranteed and will be arranged whatever final number of persons in a group.

COST OF THE TOUR 2020:

The cost of the tour for 1 person	2926 USD
SGL accommodation	+ 429 USD

*This tour is guaranteed and will be arranged whatever final number of persons in a group.

The cost tour includes:

- Accommodation at the hotels of 3* (mentioned above, or in similar, but of the same category) in double/twin rooms with breakfasts, including early check-in at the hotel in Ashgabat on day 1 check-in before 06:00. Check-in at other hotels at 14:00; check-out at 12:00;
- Meals only breakfasts at the hotels and one dinner on Darwaza crater;
- Services of English-speaking local guides (separate guides in each country);
- Entrance fees at museums and historical parks mentioned in the program above;
- · Internal air flight from Ashgabat to Mary;
- Internal air flight from Osh to Bishkek.
- Railway transfer from Tashkent to Kokand (modern carriages, normal speed, seated places);
- Transportation services on comfortable air-conditioned vehicles (sedan cars or minibuses - depending on the number of tourists in a group);
- · Mineral water for each day of the tour;

The cost tour does not include:

- · International flights, besides included;
- Visa invitations to Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan
 (if necessary);
- Visa fees to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan (*if necessary*);
- Meals (except mentioned).

Additional Services:

- Visa invitation to Kazakhstan 72 USD/per person (if necessary);
- Visa invitation to Kyrgyzstan 66 USD/per person (if necessary);
- Visa invitation to Uzbekistan 50 USD/per person (if necessary);
- Group visa to Kyrgyzstan (can be issued by our company for a group of 4+ tourists) - 77 USD/per person (*if* necessary).

 Visa invitation to Turkmenistan, including Letter of Invitation, State Registration and Travel Pass (obligatory for all foreigners);

Important note for all travelers:

Please bring only cash USD for your local expenses in Central Asia, no EURO and no credit cards are accepted in these countries (only in Almaty and Bishkek it is possible to cash money via cash machine).

Hotels

We choose the most conveniently located and reputable hotels for our customers to stay at. The list of the hotels we offer is below. However, due to seasonal conditions and group size this list is subject to change.

- Hotels 3* - inexpensive yet cozy private hotels, with traditional national interiors in many of them, providing all the necessary facilities for comfortable stays; notable for very warm hosting and home-like atmosphere;

- Hotels 4* - very comfortable hotels providing excellent facilities and services; mainly located in or near city centers.

This tour comes with the following accommodation:

City	Hote	els
Ashgabat	Ak-Altyn Hotel 3*	or similar
Bukhara	Fatima Hotel 3*	or similar
Samarkand	City Hotel 3*	or similar
Tashkent	Samir Hotel 3*	or similar
Osh	Sun Rise Hotel 3*	or similar
Bishkek	Discovery Hotel 3*	or similar
Issyk-Kul Lake	3 Crowns Hotel 3*	or similar
Almaty	Kazakhstan Hotel 3*	or similar

	Itinerary:
Day 1. (Tuesday)	Nur-Sultan (Astana): to Kazakhstan. Arrival in Nur-Sultan early in the morning. Check-in at the hotel (after 06:00). After breakfast start of the sightseeing tour in Nur-Sultan. Visit the following sites: National Museum - the biggest in Kazakhstan and consists of 10 thematic halls, including ancient and medieval history, ethnography, history of Kazakhs and other. Further visit of Hazret Sultan mosque - designed as Oriental palace, the mosque can place 10,000 visitors; Palace of Peace and Reconciliation - pyramid with golden section proportion: 62 meters of length and 62 meters of height; Baiterek - 97 meters tower - the main symbol of Nur-Sultan. Return to the hotel. Rest and overnight.
Day 2. (Wednesday)	Nur-Sultan - Almaty (train 702, 19:14-08:48 +1). Breakfast at the hotel. 10:00 - check-out from the hotel. Meet guide and driver at the hall. Continuation of the sightseeing tour in Nur-Sultan. Visit the following sites: Orthodox Church; after that walking in Water Green Boulevard, located in main administrative and business center. Further visit of EXPO - world's largest spherical building 80m in the diameter and 100m tall, the first hi-tech museum in Kazakhstan; Khan Shatyr Shopping and Entertainment center. Transfer to the railway station in the evening. 19:14-08:48 - railway transfer on a high speed train to Almaty. Overnight in train.
Day 3. (Thursday)	Almaty, arrival at 08:48. Arrival in Almaty in the morning. Breakfast at the local café. Start of the sightseeing tour in Almaty after breakfast. Visit the following sites: Panfilov Park, Zenkov Cathedral, the Memorial of Glory and Eternal Flame, Green bazaar. Transfer to the Square of the Republic, Monument of Independence and State museum. Next visit is <i>Kok-Tobe hill</i> with <i>TV tower</i> . Short ride from the top of the hill to the center of the city by the famous Almaty cableway. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Almaty. Optional (for extra fee): return to Almaty, en route visit " <i>Sunkar</i> " <i>Falcons' Farm</i> to watch the show with hunting birds at 17:00. Arrival in Almaty. Overnight at the hotel.
Day 4. (Friday)	Almaty - "Korday" border point - Bishkek (road transfer, 250 km): from Kazakhstan to Kyrgyzstan. After breakfast transfer to Bishkek via "Korday" land border. Upon arrival transfer to the hotel of Bishkek (check-in after 14:00). City tour of Bishkek: Pobeda Square (Victory Square), Duboviy Park (Oak Park), Central Ala-Too Square, the National Museum of History, National Philharmonic and Osh Bazaar. Overnight at the hotel.
Day 5. (Saturday)	Bishkek - Ala-Archa Gorge - Bishkek (road transfer, 80 km). After breakfast morning transfer to <i>Ala Archa National Park</i> . The Ala Archa gorge is on a spur of the Tien Shan mountain range, it is located in 45 km from Bishkek. You can have a short hiking tour to see a panoramic view of the gorge. You can also have a hiking to the small waterfall. Return to Bishkek. Overnight at the hotel.
Day 6. (Sunday)	Bishkek - Dushanbe (local flight): <i>from Kyrgyzstan to Tajikistan.</i> Breakfast at the hotel and further transfer to the airport for flight to Dushanbe (flight YK 749). Half day city tour about Dushanbe on arrival, including visit of famous Museum of National Antiquities with reclining Buddha in Nirvana, Botanical garden, Somoni monument, Building of a National spirit (sightseeing from outside), Stroll Rudaki Prospect.
Day 7. (Monday)	Dushanbe. After breakfast continuation of the city tour about Dushanbe: excursion to Hissor town (23 km from Dushanbe) to see ancient fortress of Hissor. Visit Madrassah Kuhna and Museum of Tajik Way of life there, Madrassah nearby and mausoleum of Sufi saint Mahdumi Azam.
Day 8. (Tuesday)	Dushanbe - Khujand - "Oybek" border point - Tashkent (road transfer, 475): <i>from Tajikistan to Uzbekistan.</i> Morning drive to Khujand via "Istiklol" tunnel (4 hours drive). In Khujand visit the following monuments: Museum of archeology and fortification, Payshanba Bazaar, one of the interesting places here, which attracts people with various sounds and tastes. After lunch transfer to the border point "Oybek". Arrival at border by 17:00. Border formalities. Change car and guide in Uzbekistan and further transfer to Tashkent (an hour and a half drive). Accommodation at the hotel on arrival and overnight. Tashkent.
Day 9. (Wednesday)	Breakfast at the hotel. Start of the guided sightseeing tour around Tashkent: Khast-Imam Square, Barak-Khan Madrasah, Kafal-al-Shashi Mausoleum, Kukeldash Madrasah; after lunch visit Museum of Applied Arts, Independence Square, Amir Timur Square. Overnight at the hotel.
Day 10. (Thursday)	Tashkent - Samarkand (morning railway transfer). Drive to the railway station for transfer to Samarkand by a high-speed "Afrosiab" train (2-hours ride) Guided sightseeing tour around Samarkand on arrival: Registan Square (Ulugbek Madrasah, Sher- Dor Madrasah, Tilla-Qori Madrasah), Gur-e Amir Mausoleum (Tamerlane's sepulcher), Rukhabad

Day 11. (Friday)	 Mausoleum (from the outside); after lunch: Bibi-Khanym Mosque, Shah-i-Zinda Necropolis, Ulugbek Observatory. Overnight at the hotel. Samarkand - Bukhara (road transfer, 280 km). After breakfast transfer to Bukhara. On arrival optional lunch and after lunch start of the sightseeing tour in Bukhara. Visit the following sites: Lyab-i Hauz Architectural Ensemble, Kukeldash Madrasah, Nadir Divan-Begi Madrasah, domed shopping arcade. Accommodation at the hotel and overnight. 	~
Day 12. (Saturday)	Bukhara. Breakfast at the hotel. Continuation of the guided sightseeing tour in Bukhara. Visit Ismail Samani Mausoleum, Chashma Ayub Mausoleum, Bolo Khauz Mosque, Ark Citadel, Po- i-Kalyan Complex (Kalyan Minaret and others), Ulugbek Madrasah. After lunch transfer 4 km from Bukhara and visit the out-of-town sites: Sitora-i Mokh-i Khosa Palace, Baha-ud-Din Naqshbandi Complex. Return to Bukhara. Overnight at the hotel.	~
Day 13. (Sunday)	Bukhara - "Farap" border point - Mary (road transfer, 380 km): from Uzbekistan to Turkmenistan. Early breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Uzbek-Turkmen border "Farab" (2-hours drive from Bukhara). Border formalities. Meet Turkmen guide and driver on the border. Visit the ancient city of Merv (UNESCO heritage site). Transfer to the hotel. Rest and overnight.	~
Day 14. (Monday)	Mary - Ashgabat (morningflight). Breakfast at the hotel and further transfer to the airport for flight to Ashgabat. Start of the sightseeing program in Ashgabat on arrival. Visit Ertogrul Gazy Mosque, Independence Park, Neutrality Arch, Ahalteke horse stables, National Museum, Nissa (UNESCO heritage site) and Turkmenbashi Mosque-Mausoleum.	~
Day 15. (Tuesday)	Ashgabat. Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport. Flight back home.	

THE COST OF THE TOUR 2019:

№ of people in group	2	4	6	8	10	12	SGL supplement
Hotels of 3*	3125	2343	2071	1892	1885	1616	+ 462
Hotels of 4*	3421	2635	2361	2191	1986	2185	+ 759
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The cost tour includes:

- Accommodation at the hotels of 3* or 4* (mentioned below, or in similar, but of the same category) in double/twin rooms with breakfasts, including **early check-in** at the hotel in Almaty **on day 1 check-in after 06:00**. *Check-in at other hotels at 14:00; check-out at 12:00*;
- Services of English-speaking local guides (separate guide in each country);
- Entrance fees at museums and historical parks mentioned in the program, including a fee to the cable car in Kok-Tobe;
- Train tickets for high-speed premium service night train from Nur-Sultan to Almaty (economy class, 4-birth compartment);
- Train tickets for high-speed premium service train «Afrosiab» from Tashkent to Samarkand (economy class);
- Internal air flight from Mary to Ashgabat;
- Transportation services on comfortable air-conditioned vehicles (*sedan cars* or *minibuses* depending on the number of tourists in a group).
- · Mineral water for each day of the tour;
- Visa invitation to Turkmenistan, including Letter of Invitation, State Registration and Travel Pass (obligatory for all foreigners).

The cost tour does not include:

- International flights;
- Air flight from Bishkek to Dushanbe current cost of the flight is 160 USD, which is subject to change *The flight is available only on Sundays (YK 749);
- Visa invitations if necessary;
- Visa fees to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan if necessary;
- Meals (except breakfasts at the hotels);
- In Turkmenistan tourist fee per night, charged in the hotels at departure 2 USD/per person/per night (obligatory).

Additional Services:

- Supplement for a place is shared 2-birth compartment in Nur-Sultan-Almaty train (recommended) - 39 USD/per person:
- Supplement for visit of the Falcon's farm in Almaty (recommended) **22 USD**/per person;
- Visa invitation to Kazakhstan 72 USD/per person (if necessary);
- Visa invitation to Kyrgyzstan 61 USD/per person (if necessary).
- Visa invitation to Uzbekistan 50 USD/per person (if necessary).
- Group visa to Kyrgyzstan (can be issued by our company for a group of 4+ tourists) - 77 USD/per person (*if* necessary).
- Supplement for meals on half board basis **308 USD**/per person/for the whole tour (optional).

• Supplement for meals on full board basis - 528 **USD**/per person/for the whole tour *(optional)*.

Important note for all travelers:

Please bring only cash USD for your local expenses in Central Asia, no EURO and no credit cards are accepted in these countries (only in Almaty and Bishkek it is possible to cash money via cash machine).

Hotels

We choose the most conveniently located and reputable hotels for our customers to stay at. The list of the hotels we offer is below. However, due to seasonal conditions and group size this list is subject to change.

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- Hotels 4* - very comfortable hotels providing excellent facilities and services; mainly located in or near city centers.

This tour comes with the following accommodation:

City	Hotels	s 3*	Hotels 4*		
Nur-Sultan (Astana)	Ibis Hotel 3*	or similar	Kazzhol Hotel 4*	or similar	
Almaty	Kazakhstan Hotel 3*	or similar	Kazzhol Hotel 4*	or similar	
Bishkek	Discovery Hotel 3*	or similar	Plaza Hotel 4*	or similar	
Dushanbe	Atlas B&B Hotel 3*	or similar	Atlas Hotel 4*	or similar	
Tashkent	Samir Hotel 3*	or similar	Ramada Hotel 4*	or similar	
Samarkand	City Hotel 3*	or similar	Grand Samarkand Hotel 4*	or similar	
Bukhara	Fatima Hotel 3*	or similar	Devon Begim Hotel 4*	or similar	
Mary	Mary Hotel 4*	or similar	Mary Hotel 4*	or similar	
Ashgabat	Ak-Altyn Hotel 3*	or similar	Grand Turkmen Hotel 4*	or similar	

Click here to Submit Enquiry

(CAT-11/09/2019)