

Great Uzbekistan Discovery: from Fergana to Khiva

SR-06



From the vibrant valleys of Fergana to the ancient walls of Khiva our "Great Uzbekistan Discovery" tour invites you to embark on an enchanting journey through the heart of Central Asia, where every step unveils centuries of history, artistry, and hospitality. Over the course of 13 days, immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of Uzbekistan's most iconic destinations. Begin your adventure in the picturesque city of Fergana, where lush landscapes and bustling markets set the stage for exploration. From there, traverse the legendary Silk Road, stopping to marvel at architectural marvels in Margilan, Kokand, and Rishtan. As your journey unfolds, discover the timeless allure of cities like Samarkand, Bukhara, and Shakhrisabz, each steeped in legend and tradition. Throughout the tour, indulge in hands-on experiences that offer insights into Uzbekistan's vibrant culture. From silk weaving in Margilan to pottery making in Gijduvon, each activity promises to deepen your appreciation for the country's artistic heritage.

Join us as we uncover the Best of Uzbekistan, where every moment is an opportunity to create lasting memories and forge connections with the past.

Note: we have minimised travel by car and utilise trains where possible, as it is more convenient, relaxing, and reduces our environmental footprint. However, if you prefer to travel by car all the way, please let us know and we will arrange accordingly.

DEPARTURE DATES:

08.05.2024; 15.05.2024; 22.05.2024; 29.05.2024; 05.06.2024; 12.06.2024; 19.06.2024;
26.06.2024; 03.07.2024; 10.07.2024; 17.07.2024; 24.07.2024; 31.07.2024; 07.08.2024;
14.08.2024; 21.08.2024; 28.08.2024; 04.09.2024; 11.09.2024; 18.09.2024; 25.09.2024;
09.10.2024; 23.10.2024; 06.11.2024; 20.11.2024; 04.12.2024.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Fergana

Upon your arrival, you will be greeted at the airport and transferred to your hotel in Fergana. Take some time to settle in and relax after your journey. Overnight stay in Fergana.

Day 2 - Fergana / Margilan / Andijan / Fergana

After breakfast, set out on a guided city tour of Fergana, delving into the rich tapestry of its history and culture. Explore key landmarks such as the Central Park, where you'll soak in the lively ambiance and perhaps engage with locals going about their daily routines. Then, venture to Margilan, celebrated for its illustrious silk industry. Wander through the bustling bazaars, where a kaleidoscope of colours and textures entices your senses. At the Margilan Silk Factory, marvel at the intricate artistry of silk weaving as skilled artisans demonstrate their craft. Immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of this traditional market town before returning to Fergana for a restful overnight stay.

Day 3 - Fergana / Rishtan / Kokand

Today, embark on a scenic journey to Kokand, passing through the charming town of Rishtan along the way. Rishtan is famed for its vibrant ceramics, and you'll have the opportunity to visit a ceramics centre to observe local artisans at work and perhaps purchase some exquisite pieces as souvenirs. Continue your journey to Kokand, where you'll delve into the city's rich history and cultural

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included

International flights
Accommodation
Breakfasts in the hotels
High-speed day train
English - speaking guides
Guided tours & entrance fees
Airport & railway transfers

Not included

Personal travel insurance
Optional excursions
Lunches & dinners

Practical information

About Go Russia company
Book with Confidence - Covid FAQs
Accommodation options

heritage. Visit landmarks such as the Khudoyar Khan Palace and the Jami Mosque, marveling at their architectural splendor. Overnight stay in Kokand.

Day 4 - Kokand / Tashkent

After breakfast, you'll have the morning free to explore Kokand at your leisure. Take the opportunity to wander through the charming streets of this historic city, soaking in its unique atmosphere and discovering its hidden treasures. You may choose to visit local markets, interact with friendly locals, or simply enjoy a leisurely stroll through the town. Later in the day, as the sun begins to set, board a comfortable train bound for Tashkent. Departing at 5:30 PM, the journey offers a scenic ride through the Uzbek landscape, providing ample opportunity to unwind and enjoy the views. Relax onboard as you traverse the countryside, anticipating the adventures that await in Tashkent.

Day 5 - Tashkent

Today is dedicated to exploring the vibrant city of Tashkent, where modernity meets tradition. Begin your city tour at Independence Square, a symbol of Uzbekistan's sovereignty, before visiting the iconic Amir Timur Square and the majestic Tashkent Metro, renowned for its ornate architecture. Explore the historic Old Town and Khast-Imam architectural complex. Immerse yourself in the vibrant "Chorsu" Eastern Bazaar, known for its exquisite crafts and flavors of Uzbekistan. Overnight stay in Tashkent.

Day 6 - Tashkent / Ugam-Chatkal National Park / Tashkent / Samarkand

After breakfast, embark on an unforgettable day trip to Ugam-Chatkal National Park, a pristine wilderness renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and diverse flora and fauna. Marvel at the turquoise waters of the Charvak Reservoir and soak in the tranquility of nature as you explore the park's scenic trails. In the evening, board a high-speed train to Samarkand, one of the oldest inhabited cities in Central Asia. Relax and enjoy the comfortable journey, which takes approximately two hours. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel for an overnight stay in Samarkand.

Day 7 - Samarkand

Today, prepare to be captivated by the ancient wonders of Samarkand as you embark on a guided city tour. Begin your exploration at Registan Square, a UNESCO World Heritage site adorned with stunning madrasahs and mosques. Continue to the Shah-i-Zinda necropolis, a sacred site featuring intricately decorated mausoleums and tombs. Marvel at the grandeur of the Bibi-Khanym Mosque and explore the bustling Siab Bazaar, where you can sample local delicacies and shop for souvenirs. Conclude your day with a visit to the Ulugh Beg Observatory, an ancient astronomical observatory built by the Timurid ruler Ulugh Beg. Overnight stay in Samarkand.

Day 8 - Samarkand / Shakhrisabz / Samarkand

Today, embark on a fascinating day trip to Shakhrisabz, the birthplace of the legendary conqueror Timur. Explore

the UNESCO-listed historic center of Shakhrisabz, which boasts a wealth of architectural treasures, including the majestic Ak-Saray Palace and the revered Dorus-Saodat Memorial Complex. Admire the intricate tilework and ornate designs that adorn these ancient monuments, and gain insights into the city's rich history and cultural significance. Return to Samarkand for an overnight stay.

Day 9 - Samarkand / Bukhara

After breakfast, board a morning train to Bukhara, a journey of approximately 1.5 hours through the picturesque Uzbek countryside. Upon arrival, immerse yourself in the timeless charm of Bukhara as you embark on a guided walking tour of the city's historic center. Explore the UNESCO-listed Old Town, where narrow alleys lead to hidden mosques, madrasahs, and caravanserais. Admire the iconic Kalyan Minaret, one of Bukhara's most recognisable landmarks, and discover the rich architectural heritage of the city. Overnight stay in Bukhara.

Day 10 - Bukhara / Gijduvon / Bukhara

Embark on a captivating day trip to Gijduvon, renowned for its rich cultural heritage. Stroll through its charming streets, discovering hidden gems like local ceramics workshops where artisans skillfully craft intricate designs. Immerse yourself in the artistry of Uzbekistan as you observe the creation process. Afterwards, participate in a hands-on Plov cooking master class, learning the traditional techniques behind this beloved Uzbek dish. Engage with expert chefs to prepare and savour the flavors of the region. For those who prefer a different activity, an option is available to participate in a ceramics master class, where you can try your hand at creating your own unique piece of pottery under the guidance of expert craftsmen. Alternatively, explore the town further, wandering through its bustling bazaars, visiting historic landmarks, or simply soaking in the local atmosphere. As the day winds down, return to Bukhara, where you can unwind and reflect on the day's experiences. Enjoy a peaceful overnight stay, filled with fond memories of your exploration in Gijduvon.

Day 11 - Bukhara / Khiva

After breakfast, embark on a scenic journey to Khiva, passing through the vast expanse of the Kyzyl-Kum Desert (480 km; 300 miles, approximately 7-8 hours). Along the way, marvel at the ever-changing landscapes of sand dunes and oasis settlements. Enjoy a short stop in the desert to stretch your legs and take in the breathtaking views. Continue your journey to Khiva, where you'll be greeted by the ancient walls of the historic Old Town. Check in to your hotel and relax after your travels. Overnight stay in Khiva.

Note: While the usual journey by car spans approximately 7-8 hours, there's a convenient alternative for travellers: an overnight train from Bukhara to Khiva. Departing at 3 - 4 AM (depending on the schedule), this train allows for a comfortable and efficient journey, arriving in Khiva at 10 - 11 AM the same morning. Although it requires an early start, it provides ample opportunity for rest onboard and

ensures you reach your destination refreshed and ready to explore. If opting for the train, you'll depart from Bukhara in the morning of Day 12, allowing for a few hours of sleep until 2:30 - 3 AM at your hotel in Bukhara.

Day 12 - Khiva

Today, immerse yourself in the timeless charm of Khiva as you explore its labyrinthine streets and architectural wonders. Embark on a guided walking tour of the UNESCO-listed Old Town, known as Itchan Kala, where every corner reveals a new marvel. Admire the intricate tilework of the Kalta Minor Minaret, explore the grandeur of the Mohammed Amin Khan Madrasah, and wander through the bustling markets of the Tash-Hauli Palace. Delve into Khiva's rich history and cultural heritage

Day 13 - Khiva / Urgench

Your Silk Road journey has come to an end. We'll arrange your transfer to Urgench Airport for your return flight home. Alternatively, you have the option to return to Tashkent and catch your international flight from there.

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
08/05/2024 - 20/05/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
15/05/2024 - 27/05/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
22/05/2024 - 03/06/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
29/05/2024 - 10/06/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
05/06/2024 - 17/06/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
12/06/2024 - 24/06/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
19/06/2024 - 01/07/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
26/06/2024 - 08/07/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
03/07/2024 - 15/07/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
10/07/2024 - 22/07/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
17/07/2024 - 29/07/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
24/07/2024 - 05/08/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
31/07/2024 - 12/08/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
07/08/2024 - 19/08/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
14/08/2024 - 26/08/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
21/08/2024 - 02/09/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
28/08/2024 - 09/09/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
04/09/2024 - 16/09/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
11/09/2024 - 23/09/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
18/09/2024 - 30/09/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
25/09/2024 - 07/10/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
09/10/2024 - 21/10/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
23/10/2024 - 04/11/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
06/11/2024 - 18/11/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
20/11/2024 - 02/12/2024	£1695	£2395	£275
04/12/2024 - 16/12/2024	£1695	£2395	£275

ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organised group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Go Russia" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please [contact us for a quote](#).

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > Highlights of Uzbekistan: Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva (SR-04), Price from £995, 8 days
- > Best of Kyrgyzstan: Discover Finest Lakes, Steppe Land & Historic Towns - 8 days (SR-05), Price from £1,395, 8 days
- > Best of Uzbekistan: Tashkent, Chimgan, Samarkand, Shakhrisabz, Bukhara, Khiva (SR-07), Price from £1,395, 10 days
- > Best of Mongolia Jeep Tour: Ulan-Bator, Gobi Desert, Karakorum (MN-03), Price from £2,095, 10 days

INFORMATION ABOUT VISAS

Go Russia provides assistance in processing visas and visa fees are included in the cost of most of our trips as detailed in the tour dossier. The visa application process is very straightforward. We have years of practical experience in dealing with tourist visas, and our in-house visa team provides assistance with completing the forms and checking the documents before consular submission. Please do not worry that your application will be unsuccessful (unless you have had any immigration issues with the relevant authorities in the past). All our tourists get their visas.

All nationalities require a full passport valid for at least six months beyond the intended length of stay. Please also make sure there are enough blank pages in your passport: Russian consulate requires minimum two blank pages.

UK, USA, Germany, France, Spain residents

We have in-house visa teams in the UK, USA, Germany, France and Spain. Upon your booking we will email you detailed guidance notes how to fill in the visa forms and what additional documents depending on nationality and your immigration status will be required. You will need to post your application pack to our visa processing office including your original passport. Please allow about two - three weeks for each visa application to be processed. The actual visa processing times are published on our website. Please advise us if you require your passport urgently, we can arrange urgent processing for an additional charge.

Non-UK, USA, Germany, France, Spain residents

If you are not resident in the above countries, we will issue official paperwork and email the required documents to you. You will need to apply for your visa at the local consulate. The process is very straightforward and we can assist you with completing the visa forms. You will have to pay the correct visa fee at the consulate in the country of your residence.

You can read more information about visa, processing times and application forms on our website:
www.justgorussia.co.uk/en/visa_services.html

HOW TO BOOK

Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Go Russia holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

Online: log on to www.justgorussia.co.uk and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Go Russia, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, brochure requests, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - info@justgorussia.co.uk, or

Phone: call us on +44 (0)20 33 55 77 17

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel / cabin category), and available upgrades.

Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum £100) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer, debit or credit card, cheque, bankers draft or postal order. You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

