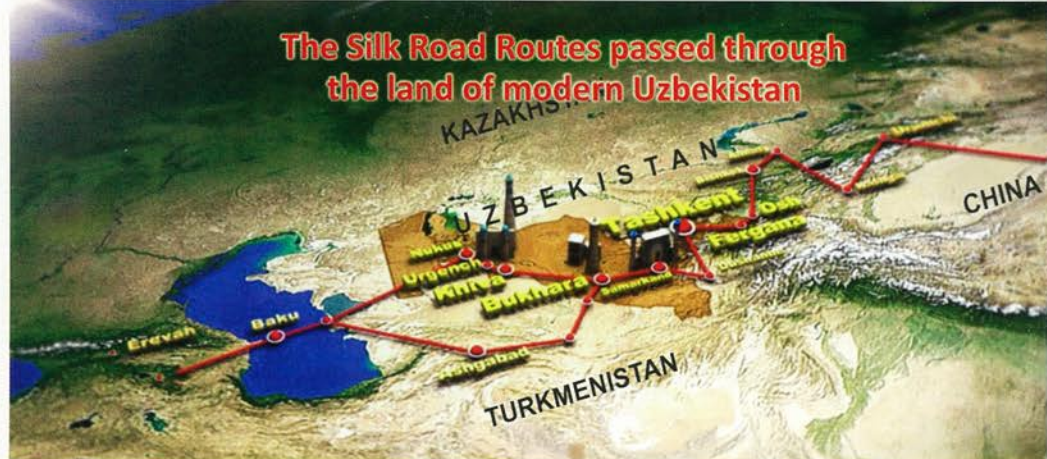
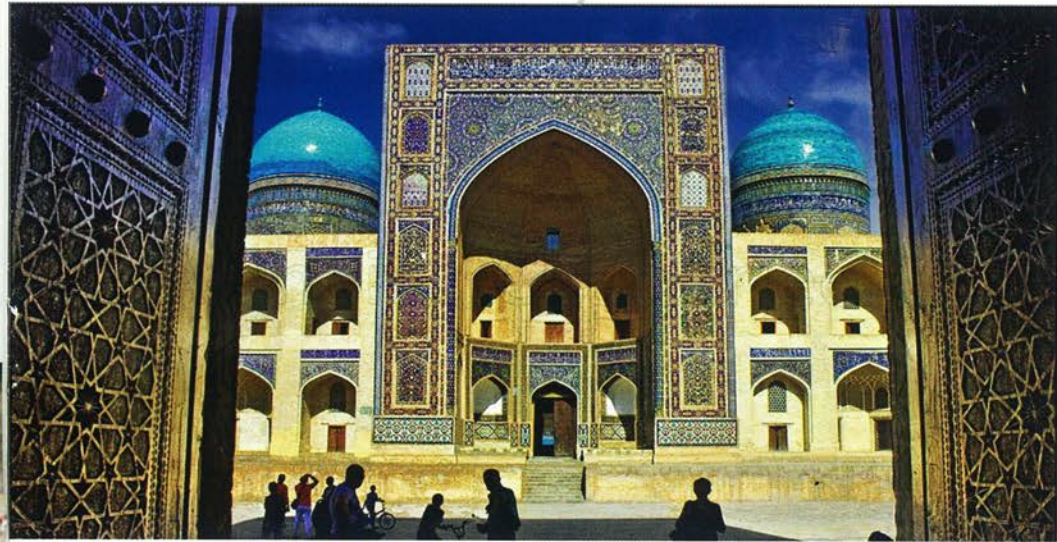




*10 reasons to visit
Uzbekistan*

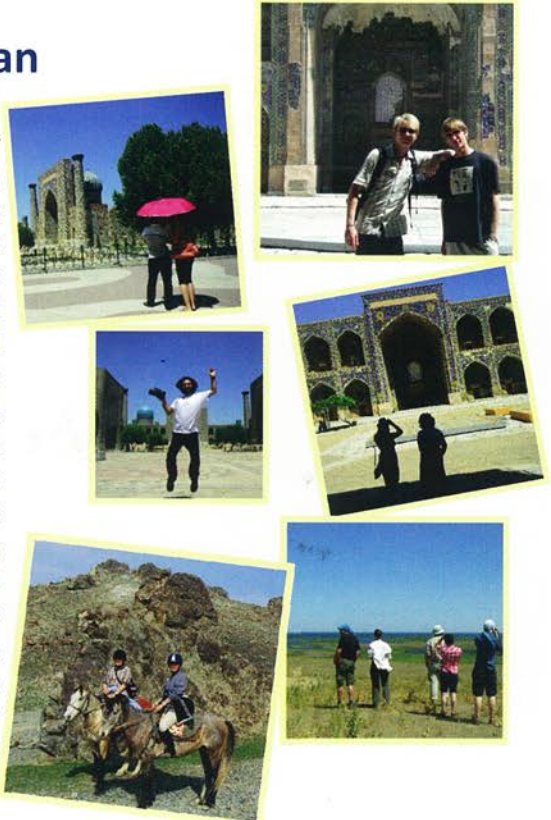
Uzbekistan, a journey along the real Great Silk Road.

The history of Uzbekistan is inseparably linked with the ancient caravan route known worldwide as the Great Silk Road. According to historical data the first caravan laden with silk and mirrors headed towards the Fergana oasis in 121 BC. The campaign of Alexander the Great passed through this land on his way to the East in 330-327 BC.



Welcome to Uzbekistan

Have you decided where to spend your vacation or your time leisure? Do you want to feel a surge of positive emotions and vivid impressions? Would you like to touch the sacraments of the East, to take pleasure in its exquisite beauty? All this you will feel in Uzbekistan! Head as soon. As possible and look forward to delightful discoveries! Uzbekistan, the land of the sun. Sunny by the people inhabiting it friendly, unaffected emotions and a palm pressed to a heart. Major cities of Uzbekistan are the pearls of the "Great Silk Road." These cities have absorbed all the singularity and unique beauty of the East, allowing to be transferred back into the atmosphere of the medieval city, to feel its flavor. Acquaintance with each of them will allow to better learn the history and unique culture of the Uzbek people.



Civilizations:

The territory of Uzbekistan had been part of the most ancient and outstanding civilizations and empires, such as: Khorezm, Sogdiana, the Graeco-Bactrian and Kushan Empires, the Empire of Alexander the Great and that of Tamerlane.

General reference information

Location:

Central Asia, to the south from Kazakhstan and to north-east from Turkmenistan, to the west from China.

Territory:

447,400 aq.km (more than Germany and a little less than Spain)
Population: 30.2 million.
Country code: +99871

Phone directory:

International Airport – 06 006 +(99871)
140 02 00, 140 28 01
Railway station +(99871) 299 72 16,
299 76 40, 005
Taxi service – 052, 062, 082, +(99871)
235 16 92, 244 11 11

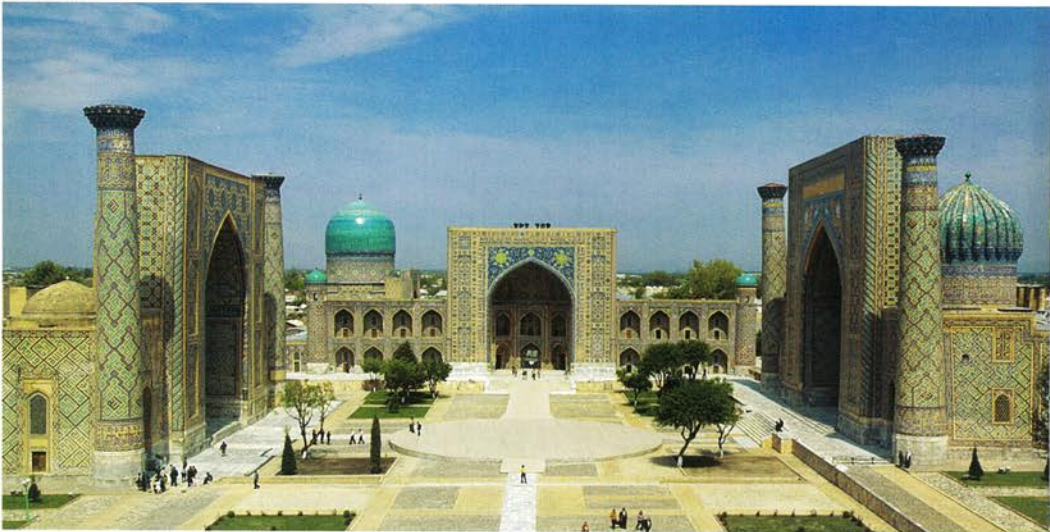
Emergency Phone Numbers:

Fire service – 101
Police – 102
Ambulance – 103
Rescue Service – 1050
Pharmacy inquiry – 1069

Average monthly temperature

January: -3° + 2° C	August: +35 + 37° C
February: +2° + 7° C	September: +28 + 33° C
March: + 21 + 25° C	October: + 25 + 27° C
June: + 28 + 30° C	November: +8° + 15° C
July: + 37 + 39° C	December: +3° + 5° C

The climate is sharply continental, dry.



Samarkand, the pearl of the East

Reghistan Square (the 15-17th C.E.) is one of the symbols of the ancient Samarkand. ☺ Reghistan is one of the most beautiful squares in the world. Samarkand is an amazing city. Whatever epithets might have been invented to describe it by the poets and philosophers:

the Mirror of the World, the Garden of the soul, the Pearl of the Orient, the Face of the Earth – perhaps, one cannot put all its beauty and wealth into the words. One can only personally enjoy all its brilliance and magnificence. Samarkand is included into the “50 must visit cities” list. (Listed as a World Heritage site).



ULUGHBEK OBSERVATORY

One of the most significant medieval observatories built by Ulughbek on the hilltop near Samarkand in 1428-1429.



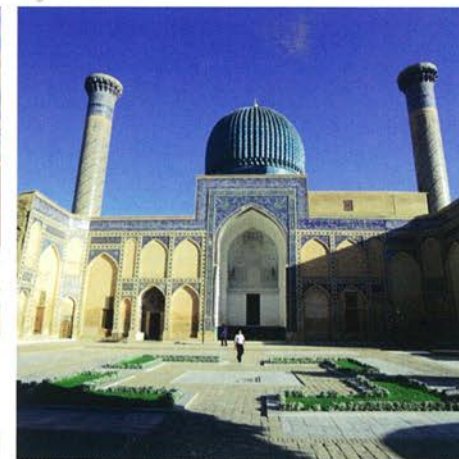
The “Afrasiyab” Museum of history

The Museum of history of Samarkand is located in the territory of the settlement of Afrasiyab. There is a worldwide well known the Ambassador's painting here which is a masterpiece of Sogdian art dates back to the 7th century C.E.



Amir Temur (Tamerlane) – (1336-1405)

Went down in history as a great creator who made an invaluable contribution to world civilization. Samarkand was the capital of the vast empire united the territories of 27 states. Tamerlane decided to outshine all of capitals in the world by the grandeur and beauty of Samarkand.



Gur-Emir Mausoleum (early 15th century)

Gur-Emir is a masterpiece of the oriental architecture. There is the tomb of Tamerlane, his sons and grandsons here.



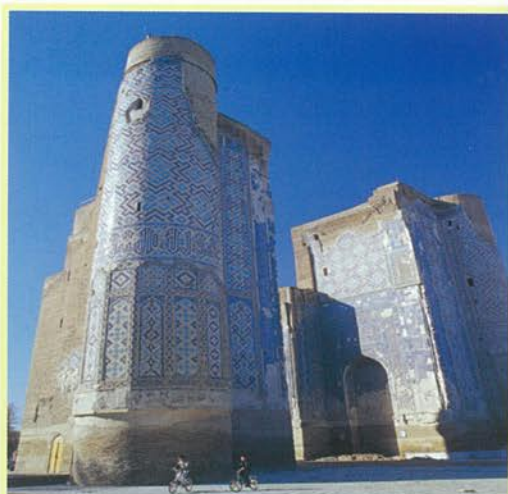
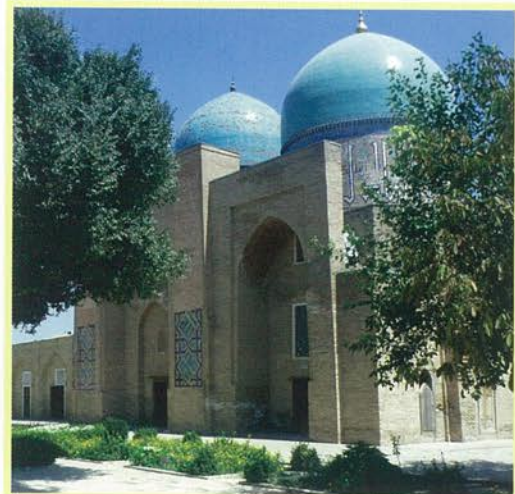
The Territories that compounded the Empire of Tamerlane



Green Garden City Shakhrisabz

Shakhrisabz located 80 km. from Samarkand is the homeland of Tamerlane. Shakhrisabz became the second capital city of his vast state which was constantly taken care of by him, improved

well and decorated. (Historical center listed in UNESCO World Heritage Sites).



One of Shakhrisabz's sights is the Kok-Gumbaz Mosque built during the region of Mirzo Ulughbek. Its dome which is the largest one in Uzbekistan with 46 meters in diameter has been fully preserved.

After one of his campaigns Tamerlane ordered to build a huge and inimitable building has no equal anywhere in the world. And thus in spring of 1380 local and overseas craftsmen, architects and builders started construction of the Ak-Saray Palace. It literally means "The White Palace".



Customs and traditions of Uzbekistan

Hospitality is a characteristic feature of the Uzbek people. Among the Uzbeks an ability to receive a guest is appreciated above the abundance of the table or wealth of a family.



Navruz is the most ancient festivity of the New Year according to the celestial solar calendar and the feast of rebirth. The main among customs of Navruz celebration, perhaps, is a "sumalyak" feast – a dish that cooked on a wood fire with flour and sprouted wheat grains, sometimes with the addition of spices. (listed in the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of UNESCO)

Wedding

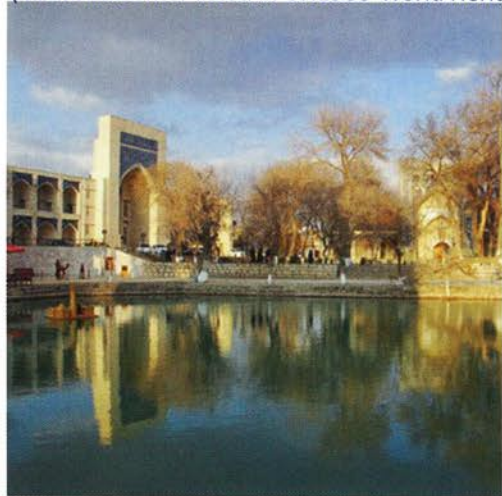
The wedding ceremony has traditionally been extremely important in the life of Uzbeks and is celebrated with particular splendor. The festive national costume differ from daily clothes by the beauty and richness of the fabrics, embroideries and fishing.



The blessed city of Bukhara

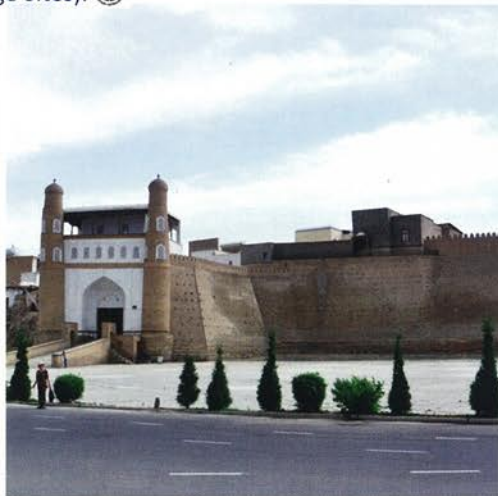
One of the oldest cities in the world. The unprecedented number of mosques and burials are concentrated here. There are burials of many Muslim Saints in Bukhara.

The blessed Bukhara - so Uzbeks respectfully call this glorious city. Ancient belief says: upon all Muslim cities the blessed light descends from the heaven and only over Bukhara it rises to the sky. (historicalcenter listed in UNESCO World Heritage Sites). ☺



Leisure at Labi-Havuz

Labi-Hauz is a magnificent architectural ensemble built in Bukhara in the 17th century. This is a small but very picturesque town with a pond (Hauz) in the center.



The "Ark" Fortress is a huge fortress which has always been the protection and support for the rulers of Bukhara. The history of the Ark is still shrouded in mystery. As long ago as the 1-3rd centuries C.E. this magnificent castle was the seat of the rulers.



Enjoy the Uzbek cuisine - a gourmet paradise

Uzbek cuisine is considered the richest cuisine of Central Asia. Many recipes of Uzbek cuisine include meat products, vegetables, fruits, herbs, spices and grains.



Plov (Osh) is the very pride of the Uzbek cuisine, a favorite and of honor of the Uzbek people and guests. It is cooked in vegetable oil from rice, meat (beef or lamb), onions, carrots with the addition of peas and raisins. Here Only to say he who did not try pilaf, not born. Cooking it is a rather laborious process and is usually done by men.



Among dough products in the national cuisine a special place is taken by flat cakes (patir or ob-non), which are baked in a special clay oven - tandir. It is a pride of women-house owners. They invent hundreds of ways to decorate them. Such bread is usually given as a gift. Flat cakes have special flavor and unique tastes.



Soups take an important place in nourishment of the Uzbek people. Traditional Uzbek soups are tasty and highly nourishing. They differ in that more meat, carrots, turnips, onions, herbs are used while cooked. Among them are shurpa (chorba), mastava, ughra and different sour-milk soups. Shurpa known since the time of Abu Ali Ibn Sina (Avicenna) is considered a curative meal against many diseases.



Uzbek samsa is a national dish that will please fans of truly savory and specific bakings. Traditionally samsa is baked in the round clay furnace tandir, sticking pies directly on a clay surface. Meat or herbs, pumpkin and potatoes can be used as a stuffing.



Unique taste of oriental sweets and wine

Uzbekistan is rightfully occupies a special place in the world in the production of excellent dessert wines, filled with rays of the hot sun.



The Uzbek sweets can be divided into several main grades - this is nuts and dried fruits, flour and sweets, and desserts such as soft candies and caramel. Candies in Uzbek cuisine are also special and called *parvarda*.

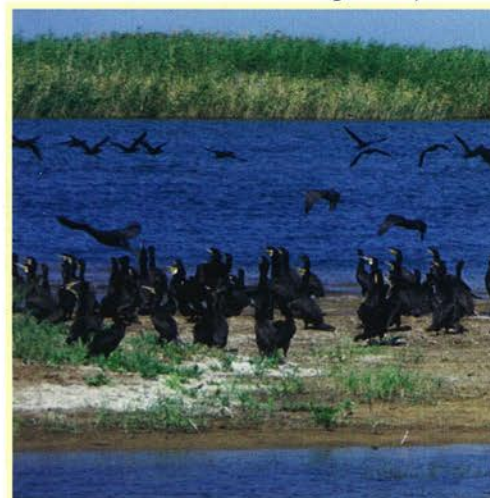
Another delicacy is *halvah*, a paste. It has set of types. Its main ingredients are flour, sugar, honey, and also in different compounding they are nuts, raisin and dairy products. All these desserts pleasantly melt in your mouth and are considered very nutritious.

Another very unusual and yet incredibly delicious sweet dish - *pashmak*. At its core, this is the same flour halva, however, the preparation technology varies greatly. Pashmak is white sweet brittle bound threads crackling and melting in the mouth.

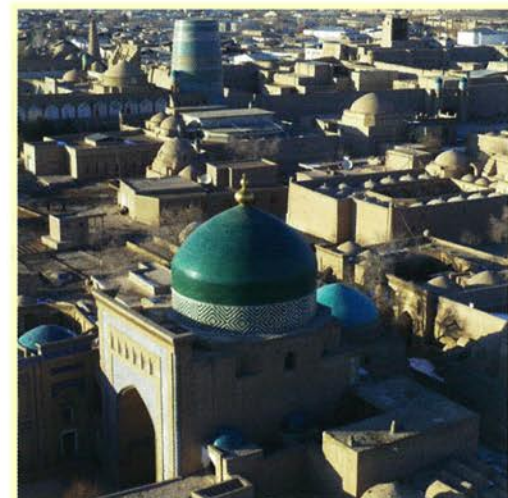


KHIVA: a city museum under an open air.

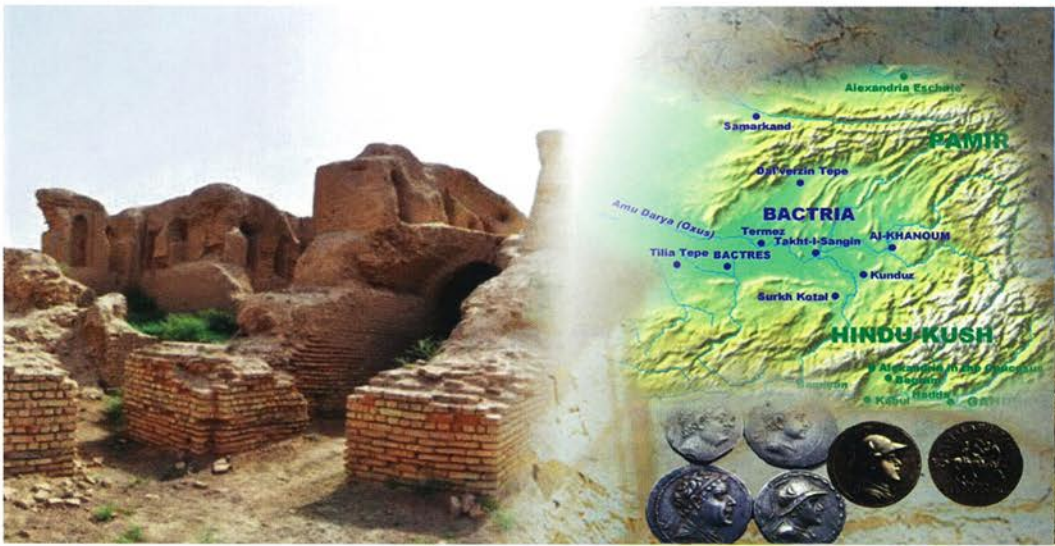
While visited Khiva you become an eye-witness of the real oriental fairy tale getting lost in to quaint lanes that lead to the minarets and domes of amazing beauty. (Ichan Kala-the inner city listed in UNESCO World Heritage Sites).



Tourist itineraries on the lakes "Gouk-kul", "EshonRavat" and "KichkinaDuzlok" in Khiva area are designed for those who want to sunbathe, go fishing, ride on camels and live in a yurt. Here you can relax and enjoy the magnificent scenery of nature.

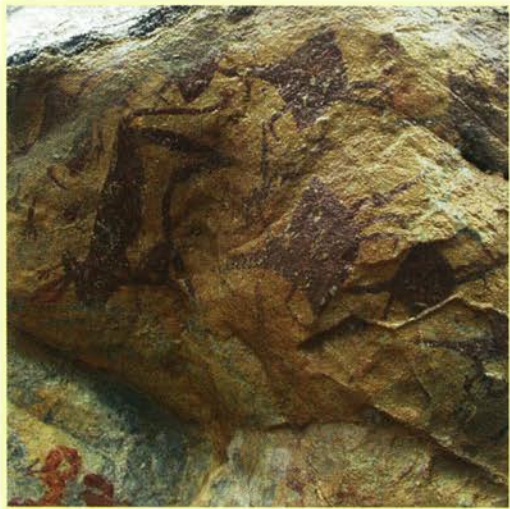


KHIVA is a city museum under an open air. Poets and philosophers who lived in Khiva or visited it once called it the "Pearl of the world" and "World's eighth wonder." It is impossible to describe why they used such epithets. The city was one of the major centers of the Great Silk Road.

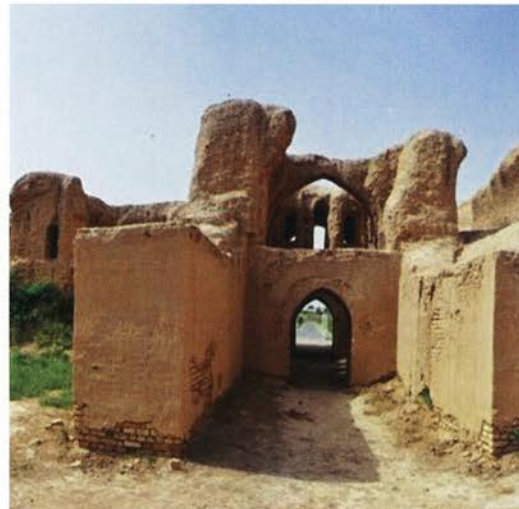


TERMEZ - from the Stone Age and Buddhism to Islam

In the ancient times Termez was located in the center of the legendary Bactria, the region on the banks of the Oxus River (the ancient name of Amu Darya) the waters of which were blessed by the river God Oahsho.



Rock paintings, of Zarautsay refer to the Stone Age and are one of the most ancient samples of human painting. (VI-V cent.BC). To date in the territory of Uzbekistan over 150 items with rock paintings have been revealed.



For the centuries the old Termez had developed as one of the largest cities of the Kushan Empire. Along with the Roman Empire, Parthia (and later - Sasanid Iran) and ancient China it was one of the four "powerful state» to expand its influence on almost all of the Old World - from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.



Natural Wonders of Uzbekistan

Nature of Uzbekistan is diverse and picturesque, it comprises from mountain forests, waterfalls, caves, nature reserves to rivers, lakes and vast deserts.



In recent years Uzbekistan has turned into one of the most attractive destinations for fans of mountain skiing. Mountain landscapes are one of the most picturesque landscapes of Central Asia. Alpine skiing in Uzbekistan is a widest choice of hillsides and mountain slopes, rocky springboards and snow fields.

Huge vastness of the country is occupied by KyzylKum and Kara Kum Deserts. One of the most popular types of tourism in Uzbekistan is the jeep safari on sand and sand dunes of deserts. You will hear the silence of the desert admire the twinkling stars in the Eastern sky.

In the vicinity of Tashkent on the Syr Darya River and its tributaries Angren, Ugam, Chatkal and Pskem - you can do Whitewater rafting. The best time for river rafting is from April to June. The water current in the Syr-Darya and Angren Rivers rather quiet, but in Ugam, Chatkal and Pskem is rougher.

In mountains the set of resort settlements and hotels, the huge number of hiking and skiing trails are arranged and also popular slopes for mountaineering and alpinism are laid out. Big Chimgan Ridge (3309 m.) has been known as one of the best facilities for ascension from the very beginning of climbing sports.



The unique art and culture

The principal differences of the Uzbek dance from other dances of the Eastern cultures are extraordinary plastics which are transmitted by complex and expressive movements of hands and a facial expression.




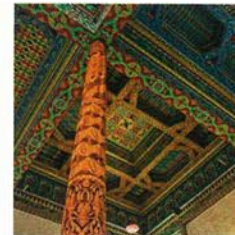
Crafts and folk arts of Uzbekistan

Arts and crafts of Uzbekistan is an original and exclusive creation of folk artists, craftsmen transmitting their skills from generation to generation.



"Baysun" Cultural space

Do you want to make a time travel which will transfer you to the land kept in his memory a culture of sunk into oblivion the Greek-Bactrian and Kushan Empires, pagan rites of Zoroastrians and shamanic cults? Then, welcome to Baysun (Surkhandarya). (Cultural space listed in UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity) 



Arts and crafts of Uzbekistan is an original and exclusive creation of folk artists, craftsmen transmitting their skills from generation to generation. Carving on ganch (gypsum) is one of the most unique and ancient forms of artistic crafts of Uzbekistan. The art of carving on ganch of Central Asia and Uzbekistan in particular by its artistic style and specific technical performance is a unique school.

Wood carving art in Uzbekistan has been part of the Central Asian art heritage and its origins date back to ancient times. In architecture it is used as an important architectural detail of the structures such as columns, cornices, doors, ceilings, grates.

One of the oldest forms of applied arts of Uzbekistan inferior by age only to ceramic art is the art of metal work, which is chasing on copper. It predominates over the other kinds of crafts by several parameters: uniqueness of the samples and monuments from different eras and also the abundance of thematic motifs.

One of the most ancient and exclusively interesting types of Applied Arts of Uzbekistan which has preserved the clear localization of local schools and traditions to this day is pottery. Ceramic art is presented by wide range of plates - lagans, spherical bowl, bowls and jars, vases, and pots - khoums of variety sizes.



Crafts and folk arts of Uzbekistan



Folk traditions of carpet weaving in Uzbekistan are the result of work and creative searches of many generations. Carpets are perfect both on technique, and on the decoration. Bukhara carpets have become a global brand since early middle ages.

Very original branch of metal processing art in Uzbekistan is art of making knives with a peaked blade stored in a specially made leather overlays, an embroidery, application and a painting. Such knives are called *guldor knife* that means an elegant, frilly knife.

Gold embroidery. Art of gold embroidery "zarduzi" has a rich history, which has been handed down from generation to generation, from father to son. Gold embroidery has come through a long way of development. Bukhara has become the recognized center of gold embroidery on the territory of Uzbekistan. Men's gowns, women's dresses, turbans, skullcaps, scarves, trousers and footwear are usually embroidered by Gold.

Jewelry art in Uzbekistan has a long tradition. From century to century the masters - zargars created unique jewelry patterns. Local jewelers have long been famous for their high technique of execution, artistic flair and a delicate taste. All this bazaar located in the heart of the Old City products are original and under the bright turquoise dome is a place of hard to find the onesale of variety of spices, fruits and vegetables, that duplicate each other.



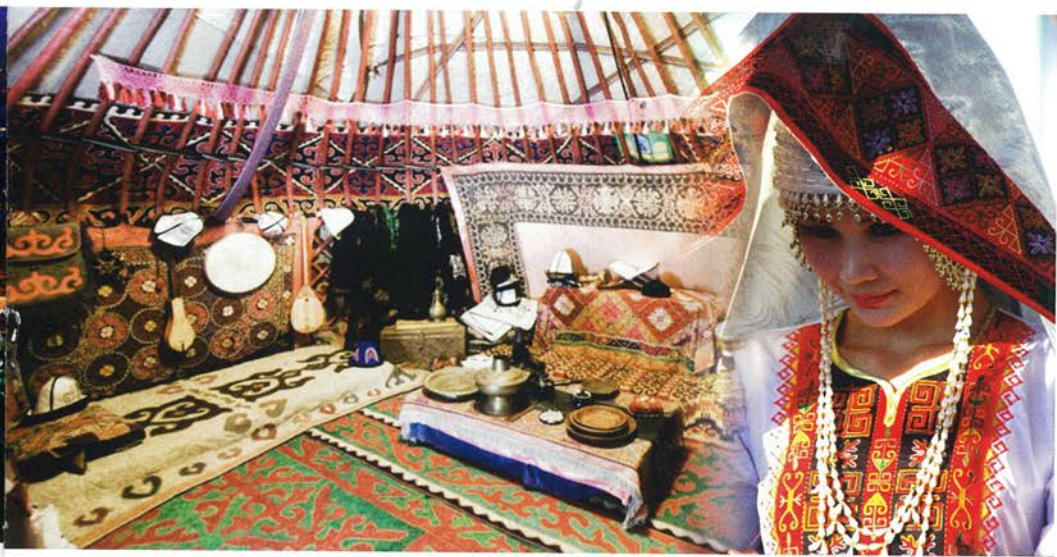
Shopping in bazaars

Traditionally an oriental bazaar also serves as a modern supermarket, social club for communication, source for latest news and entertainment center. Chor-Su bazaar. It is not only the largest but also the oldest bazaar of Tashkent.



Chor-Su has been known since the time when the Great Silk Road passed through Tashkent. This bazaar located in the heart of the Old City products are original and under the bright turquoise dome is a place of hard to find the onesale of variety of spices, fruits and vegetables, that duplicate each other.

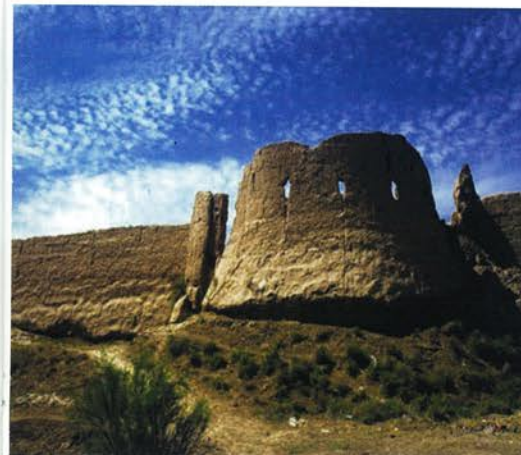
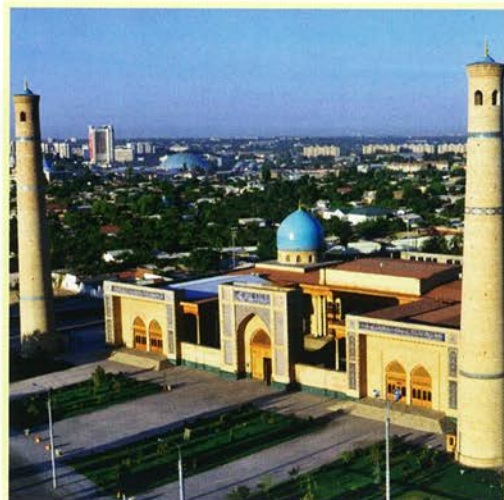
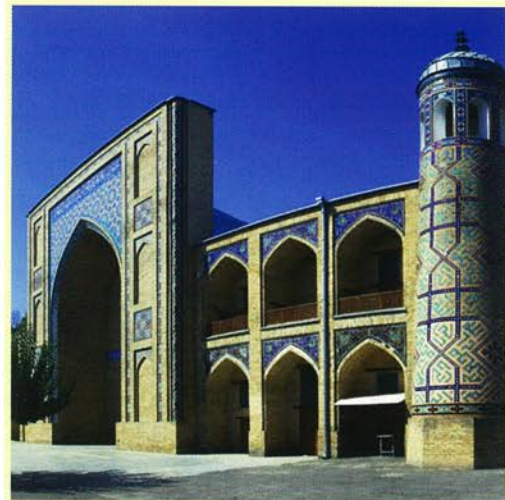
Siyab bazaar is one of the oldest bazaars in Samarkand and located between the Bibi-Khanum Mosque and the Shahi Zindeh Ensemble nearby the Reghistan Square. All through the ages it has been the center of the public life of citizens. Sales and festivities were taken place here. And today the Siyab market welcomes its buyers by abundance of fruit and vegetables, melons and grain crops.



TASHKENT, a Star of the East.

The capital of Uzbekistan combines modernity and antiquity. History of Tashkent goes back to 2200 years. Today Tashkent is the biggest business and cultural center of the region.

KARAKALPAKSTAN, a land of ancient fortresses



KukeldashMadrassah
The most well known historical monument in Tashkent is Kukeldash Madrassah build in the 16th century during the rule of the Uzbek Shaybanid sultans - Barak Khan and Dervish Khan. The place for construction was chosen on a high hill served as a base for the building.

Hazrati-Imam Ensemble
Hazrati-Imam Square is located in historical part of the city. There are the Baraq-Khan Madrassah, the Tilla-Shaykh Mosque, the Mausoleum of Sant Abu Bakr Kaffal Shashi and Imam al-Bukhari Islamic Institute here.

The territory of modern Republic of Karakalpakstan is a kind of "archaeological reserve". In this territory now there are more than 300 archaeological sites. Ayaz Qala consisting of two fortresses and castles is the most beautiful Fortress. Scale of construction strikes even now. With 20 meter defensive walls Toprak-Qala is considered to be the biggest construction. It includes the palace, military barracks, temple constructions and ten city quarters.

The collection of the Savitsky Museum in Nukus has more than 90 000 exhibits including a collection of Russian avant-garde, the fine arts of Uzbekistan, national applied art of Karakalpakstan, art of ancient Khorezm added by beautiful copies of a number of exhibits of the Museum of Louvre in Paris. According to evaluations of experts and the world mass media, the museum's collection possesses the world's second-largest collection of Russian avant-garde owing to its significance and content.



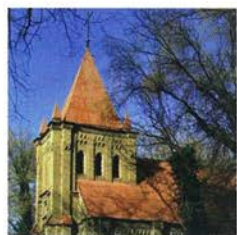
National and religious tolerance

Most of the citizens of Uzbekistan (88%) are Sunni Muslims. Although Islam is the main religion of the country Uzbekistan is a secular state. Tolerant attitude towards other religions in Uzbekistan is obvious today to all who knows this country, as well as for numerous tourists traveling along the Silk Road. Coexistence of various ethnicities, cultures and religions throughout many centuries here has determined confessional tolerance of the Uzbek people. Uzbekistan is a multinational republic, representatives of more than 100 nations and nationalities live here. For the years of independence dozens of mosques, churches, synagogues and temples have been built, restored and constructed.

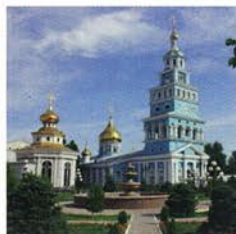
Roman Catholic Church, 1912, Tashkent



Evangelic Lutheran Church, 1899, Tashkent



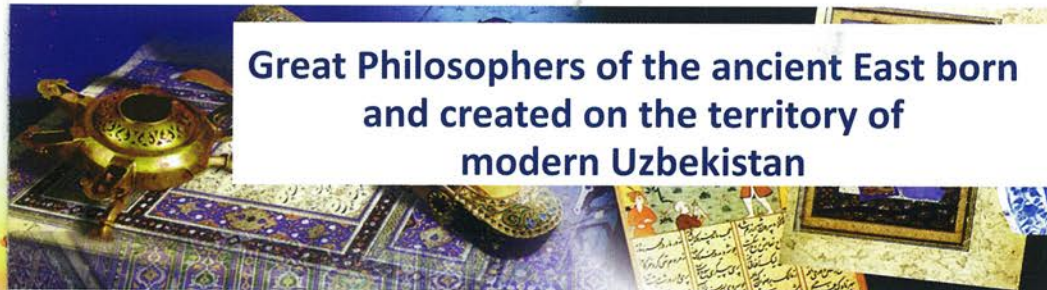
Holy Koran of caliph Othman is the most ancient manuscript of the Holy Koran preserved up today which empurpled as supposed by blood of Othman, the third Caliph. The manuscript is kept in the Tilla Shaykh Mosque of the Hazrati Imam Ensemble in Tashkent. (Included in the UNESCO's Memory of the World Register of documentary heritage).



Holy Dormition Cathedral, 1879, Tashkent



The oldest synagogue in Central Asia, 1620, located in the Jewish quarter of Bukhara.



Great Philosophers of the ancient East born and created on the territory of modern Uzbekistan



Al-Khorezmi (783 - 850 C.E., Khorezm)

Eminent scholar (mathematician, astronomer, geographer and historian of the 9th century, the founder of classical algebra. "the word "algebra" was derived from the name of his "Book of the completion and the opposition" ("Al-Kitab al-Mukhtasari Hisab Al Jabr wa-1 Muqabala").



Al-Biruni (973 -1048 C.E., Khorezm)

Scholar, encyclopedician and philosopher, the author of the numerous fundamental works. Al-Biruni mastered almost all the sciences of his time. He theoretically assumed that on the other side of the earth there is a continent and people live there. That was almost half a century before Christopher Columbus discovered America.



Abu Ali Ibn Sina (Avicenna) (980 -1037 C.E., Bukhara)

Scholar, philosopher and physician, a representative of the eastern Aristotelianism. His "Canon of Medicine" ("Kitab al-Qanun fi-t-Tibb" - one of the most famous books in the history of medicine. From the 12th to the 17th century the physicians had studied the basics of the medical science on the "Canon".



Mirzo Ulughbek (1394 -1449 Samarkand)

The ruler of the dynasty of Timurids, the grandson of Tamerlane. Scholar and founder of the observatory "The Star of Ulughbek" which amazed his contemporaries with the height and dimensions of the building. Ulughbek fixed the position of 1018 immobile stars and calculated the length of the celestial year.

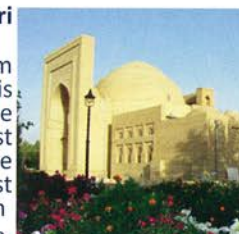


Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur (1483-1530, Andijan)

The descendant of Tamerlane. The ruler of India and Afghanistan, commander, he founder of the Mughal Empire. Also known as a poet and writer. Jai Mahal in India is the most known in the West sample of the Mughal architectural style. It was built by a direct descendant of Babur - Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal.



Imam Ismail al-Bukhari Ensemble
Muhammad ibn Ibrahim ibn Ismail al-Bukhari is well known in the Muslim world theologian of the 9th century, the compiler of the most authoritative collection of the Hadith (The Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad).



Mausoleum of Hakim al-Termezi
Hakim al-Termezi (824-892 C.E.) is an outstanding Muslim thinker, Hadith collector and lawyer. Today the mausoleum of Hakim al-Termezi is a place for pilgrimage, a real shrine and a major religious center. His collection of Hadith (The Sayings of the Prophet) is one of the most authoritative ones.

MODERN HOTELS:



**RADISSON BLU HOTEL
TASHKENT**



**LOTTE CITY HOTEL
TASHKENT PALACE**



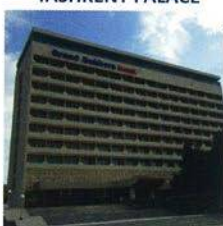
WYNDHAM TASHKENT



RAMADA HOTEL



**REGISTAN PLAZA
SAMARKAND**



**GRAND BUKHORO
HOTEL**

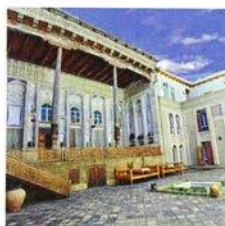


KHOREZM PALACE

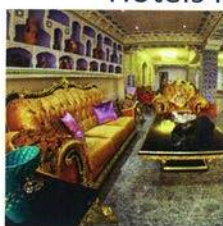


**MERIDIAN HOTEL
TERMEZ**

Hotels in traditional style:



LYABI HOUSE BUKHARA



EMIR HAN SAMARKAND



ARKANCHI KHIVA



GRAND ORZU TASHKENT



"Uzbekistan Airways" National Airline Company is the largest air carrier in Central Asia. There are 11 international airports in Uzbekistan connecting the country with more than 40 cities of Europe, Asia, the Middle East and North America. The fleet consists of modern and comfortable "Boeing" and "Airbus" aircrafts.

[Click here to Submit Enquiry](#)



State JS Company "Uzbekistan Railways" is one of the largest in the Central Asia. The total length of railways in Uzbekistan make more than 6020 kilometers. Comfortable high-speed trains «Afrosiyob» produced by the Spanish «Talgo» will convey You from the capital to ancient Samarkand within 2 hours