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UZBEKISTAN & MORE

THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD ODYSSEY: TASHKENT TO ALMATY

(TOUR CODE: 13534)

STARTS AND ENDS	TRAVEL PERIODS	EXPERIENCE	TRAVEL STYLE
Tashkent to Almaty	01 Apr 27 - 30 Mar 28	Cultural Rail	Rail Journeys

Embark on a Silk Road Odyssey in Central Asia aboard the comfortable Orient Silk Road Express. This isn't merely a journey; it's a tale of discovery, woven with the threads of unique experiences that assure to transform your adventure into something genuinely enchanting.

Highlights

- Explore 5 awe-inspiring UNESCO World Heritage sites over a span of 15 days
- Experience the unique beauty of Registan Square, hailed as one of the world's most beautiful squares in the world
- Enjoy a traditional folklore performance set within the historic walls of a madrasa
- Stroll through the captivating streets and bustling markets of Khiva and Bukhara

Embark on a mesmerizing 15-day journey through the heart of Central Asia as you trace the footsteps of ancient traders and explorers along the Legendary Silk Road. This extraordinary adventure takes you from the vibrant landscapes of Uzbekistan via Tajikistan to Krygyzstan and Kazakhstan.

This meticulously crafted route invites you to explore the enchanting cities of Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara, Dushanbe, Samarkand, Bishkek and Almaty - each boasting a rich history and a unique blend of traditions. This is an immersive expedition that unveils the treasures of the Silk Road, where every stop promises to be a gateway to a bygone era of discovery and cultural exchange.



INCLUSIONS

- Enjoy a 7-night stay aboard the Orient Silk Road Express
- Experience comfort with 7 nights in well-appointed mid-range and comfort hotels, featuring double rooms with bath or shower facilities - in Tashkent, Bukhara, Samarkand, Bishkek and Almaty)
- Enjoy a tasting experience featuring vodka and wine.
- Immerse yourself in a comprehensive excursion and sightseeing program, inclusive of entrance fees.
- Immerse yourself in local culture with a visit to an Uzbek family.
- Receive a warm welcome with traditional folklore at the train stations in Bukhara and Samarkand.
- Accompanied by a bilingual tour guide throughout the train journey and an English-speaking tour guide for off-train tours.
- Indulge in delicious meals throughout the journey, as specified within the itinerary.
- Benefit from seamless Airport transfers at the start and end of your itinerary
- Doctor available on the train for the well-being of guests.

ITINERARY

Intro Map

The Legendary Silk Road Odyssey: Tashkent to Almaty



Day 1 Arrive in Tashkent

Arrival in Tashkent is contingent on your flight connection, with transfer to a centrally located hotel during the day. Check-in for your room is available around 3 pm.

Overnight in Hotel Inspira (or similar).



TASHKENT TRAIN STATION

Day 2 Tashkent

If your flight arrives early in the morning, you will be transported to your comfortable hotel, where your room is prepared for check-in. Begin your day with a breakfast.

Following a morning of leisure, the afternoon brings an opportunity to meet your tour guides and fellow travellers. The commencement of your journey includes an impressive city tour featuring Kukeldash Madrasah, the Kavoj and Amir-Timur monuments, and the distinctive clay houses.

Overnight in Hotel Inspira (or similar)

Breakfast, Dinner



AMIR-TIMUR MONUMENT, TASHKENT

Day 3 Tashkent - journey on the train begins

Following your morning breakfast, you'll traverse the narrow valleys of the Chimgan Mountains en-route to the Amirsoy Mountain Resort. Once there, seize the opportunity to take a cable car ride and revel in the breathtaking panoramic views. Following a delightful lunch with a scenic backdrop, you will be driven back to Tashkent.

In the afternoon, the next phase of your adventure kicks off with a special train journey. A warm welcome drink and a brief lecture await you on board, setting the tone for an enriching and enjoyable experience.

*Overnight onboard the **Orient Silk Road Express.***

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



ORIENT SILK ROAD EXPRESS

Day 4 Khiva

Today, visit the Khiva Oasis, from one of the best-known fairy tales from 1001 Nights.

As you stand before the formidable city wall of Khiva, adorned with gates and bastions crafted from clay bricks, you may feel as though you've stepped into another realm. The area surrounding the Kalta Minor Minaret teems with life, echoing the vibrancy of ancient times. Engage in a captivating walking tour where you can marvel at the array of historical wonders: palaces, mosques, minarets, mausoleums, and madrasas come together to create one of the most well-preserved ensembles of medieval Middle Eastern town planning.

Immerse yourself in the rich history and cultural heritage as you explore the intricacies of Khiva. The night unfolds with an exceptional experience as you retire on board, ready to continue your voyage into the heart of this captivating destination.

*Overnight onboard the **Orient Silk Road Express.***

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner


KHIVA

Day 5 Noble Bukhara

Situated amidst the Kyzylkum Desert, Bukhara boasts around a thousand monuments that recall the glory days of the Great Silk Road. Within the old town, the towering Kalyan minaret, reaching almost 50 meters in height, stands as a testament to this historical richness. The Lab-i Hauz ensemble, nestled by the pond, adds to the charm of the surroundings. Take a moment to absorb the tales and legends at the Nasreddin monument.

Step into the courtyard of a madrasa for a captivating folklore show featuring local music, traditional dances, and a vibrant display of colourful national costumes. Conclude the day with an overnight stay at a well-appointed mid-range hotel in Bukhara.

*Overnight in **Hotel Asia Buchara*** (or similar).

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



FOLKLORE SHOW IN BUKHARA

Day 6 Bukhara

Today's exploration unfolds in Bukhara, where the entire city unfolds like an extensive, distinctive, and authentically preserved architectural museum, maintaining its ancient Middle Eastern allure. The morning venture leads you to the splendid Mir-i-Arab and the esteemed Samanid Mausoleum, a structure of unparalleled value in Central Asia. Immerse yourself in the historical tapestry as you tour the formidable Ark fortress, a city within a city that once served as the governmental hub for the rulers of Bukhara. The night promises a unique overnight experience on board, adding to the extraordinary journey through this culturally rich destination.

*Overnight onboard the **Orient Silk Road Express.***

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



SAMANID MAUSOLEUM, BUKHARA

Day 7 Day onboard the train

Having traversed the mountains overnight, you'll be treated to a captivating folklore show today, showcasing the distinctive

traditions of a region that appears to have transcended time. Following this cultural immersion, the journey continues to Shahrisabz, the birthplace of Timur. As evening descends, board your special train destined for Dushanbe, continuing this extraordinary expedition through the historical and cultural gems of the region.

*Overnight onboard the **Orient Silk Road Express.***

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



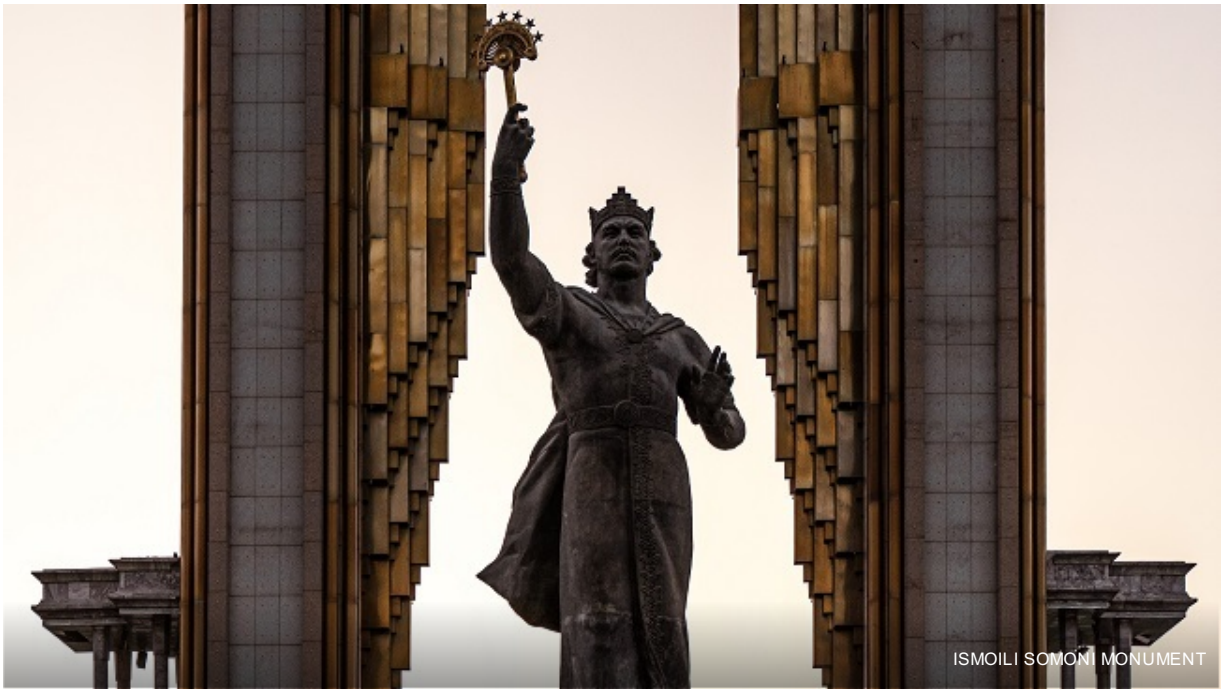
SHAHRISABZ, THE BIRTHPLACE OF TIMUR

Day 8 Dushanbe

Upon your morning arrival in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan, you'll embark on a comprehensive tour, exploring numerous notable sights. Amidst the city's many parks, a visit to Rudaki Park provides a delightful opportunity to unwind amidst scenic surroundings. As the afternoon unfolds, you'll return to your special train, setting course for the next destination on this remarkable journey—Samarkand.

*Overnight onboard the **Orient Silk Road Express.***

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



ISMOILI SOMONI MONUMENT

Day 9 Samarkand

Today promises a journey through the sights of Samarkand, a city once hailed by Timur as the most beautiful and significant in the world. Explore the burial town of Shah-i-Zinda, often referred to as "The Living King," and delve into the excavation sites of Afrasiyab, accompanied by an insightful museum tour. The iconic Registan Square, a marvel in Central Asian architecture, boasts three grand madrasas enveloping it.

As you stand in this historical square, the domes of the mosques shimmer like scenes from a Middle Eastern fairy tale. Notably, in 1917, the women of Uzbekistan made a powerful statement by burning their face veils at this very site, marking the beginning of a new era.

For the next two nights, your accommodation in Samarkand will be at a comfortable mid-range hotel, allowing you to further immerse yourself in the rich history and allure of this renowned city.

*Overnight in **Hotel Grand Samarkand** (or similar)*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



REGISTAN SQUARE

Day 10 Samarkand

Embark on a culturally enriching day as you explore a silk carpet manufactory and engage with an Uzbek artisan family renowned for crafting paper from mulberry tree bark. Your journey continues with a visit to the Ulugh Beg Observatory, a testament to scientific achievement in the region. Witness the beauty of the ruins of the Bibi-Khanym Mosque, an architectural marvel with a rich historical background.

Delve into history at the Gur-i-Amir mausoleum complex, resembling a palace, where you can explore the interior and discover the tomb of Timur. Known as both a revered builder who turned his capital into a paradise and a formidable conqueror who left an indelible mark on history, Timur's legacy is intricately woven into the fabric of Samarkand's past. The mausoleum complex stands as a tribute to this complex historical figure.

*Overnight in **Hotel Grand Samarkand** (or similar).*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner


GUR-I-AMIR MAUSOLEUM

Day 11 Day onboard the train

Following breakfast, your special train will embark on a journey to Kyrgyzstan. This day unfolds as a leisurely experience, allowing you to relax and partake in informative lectures on board. Embrace the tranquility of the train's atmosphere, savouring the opportunity to unwind and anticipate the adventures awaiting you at the next destination. Enjoy the serenity of this relaxed day as you eagerly anticipate the upcoming station on your remarkable journey.

*Overnight onboard the **Orient Silk Road Express.***

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner


DAY ON BOARD

Day 12 Bishkek

After indulging in breakfast on board, your journey brings you to the Kyrgyz capital, Bishkek. Embark on a comprehensive tour to explore the city's numerous sights. Noteworthy is Bishkek's distinction as one of the greenest cities globally, boasting approximately 100m² of green space per inhabitant. As part of your itinerary, the enchanting Ala Archa National Park is

included, offering a nature-filled experience.

As the day concludes, you'll find accommodation in a comfortable hotel in Bishkek, ensuring a restful night as you reflect on the day's discoveries in this vibrant and verdant city.

*Overnight in **Hotel Damas International** (or similar).*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner


BISHKEK

Day 13 Issyk Kul Lake (Kyrgyzstan)

Following breakfast, your special train sets forth on a captivating journey to the stunning Issyk Kul Lake. A visit to the Center of Nomadic Culture, will provide insights into the rich heritage of the region. Enjoy a leisurely walk or, if you're inclined, indulge in a refreshing swim in the waters of Issyk Kul.

Later in the day, experience the tranquility of the lake with a boat trip, savouring the picturesque surroundings. As the day unfolds, your train continues its scenic route, making its way to Almaty, promising more adventures and discoveries on this remarkable voyage.

*Overnight onboard the **Orient Silk Road Express.***

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner


LAKE ISSYK KUL

Day 14 Almaty – "Father of Apples"

Arriving after lunch, immerse yourself in the beauty of Almaty through a city tour. Explore notable landmarks such as the Russian Orthodox wooden cathedral, the distinctive wedding palace, the lively circus, and the central mosque, each contributing to the unique tapestry of this captivating city.

As the day draws to a close, indulge in a farewell dinner at a local yurt restaurant, offering a taste of traditional flavours and hospitality. Conclude your journey with a last brief night at the hotel, reflecting on the memories and experiences accumulated throughout this unforgettable adventure.

*Overnight in **Rahat Palace** (or similar).*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner


ALMATY

Day 15 Return

Say your farewells to newfound friends as you make your way to the airport for your departure.

ACCOMMODATION

The Orient Silk Road Express

UPGRADE AVAILABLE

Aladdin (Two lower beds with shared washroom/shower facilities)

This category features two lower beds (67 x 184 cm), a small table and storage space. Each car has nine compartments - Guests in this category receive one bathrobe per compartment; shared toilet and washing facilities located at both ends.

Room Upgrades

Kalif

This category features two beds, with an upper berth measuring 80 x 174 cm and the lower one is 112 x 184 cm. Each compartment features a closet and en-suite bath with separate shower cabin. Every car in this category is limited to four compartments and offers space for a maximum of just 8 guests.



Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to Book Now or Contact Us for details.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

2027 Departure dates:

- 01 Apr - 15 Apr 2027
- 02 Sep - 16 Sep 2027
- 30 Sep - 14 Oct 2027

2028 Departure dates:

- 30 Mar - 13 Apr 2028

Excluded

1. **Visa Fees (if required):** The cost associated with obtaining a visa is not covered in the package. This includes any fees charged by the relevant authorities for processing and issuing the visa necessary for your travels. Travellers are advised to plan accordingly so your Agent can initiate visa processes well in advance of your intended travel dates.
2. **Invitation Letter for Kazakhstan (if required):** While the package includes assistance with the invitation letter for Kazakhstan, it's important to note that any processing time required for the issuance of this letter is not accounted for in the package.
3. **Gratuities:** Gratuity or tips for services rendered, such as those provided by tour guides, drivers, or hotel staff, are not included. Travellers may choose to express their appreciation through gratuities at their discretion.
4. **International Flights:** The package does not cover the cost of international flights to and from the destination. Travellers are responsible for booking and securing their own international flights for the specified travel period.
5. **Personal Expenses:** Any personal expenses incurred during the trip, such as meals not included in the package, additional excursions, shopping, or other personal activities, are not covered. Travelers should budget accordingly for these discretionary expenses.
6. **Travel Insurance:** Travel insurance is not included and is recommended.

