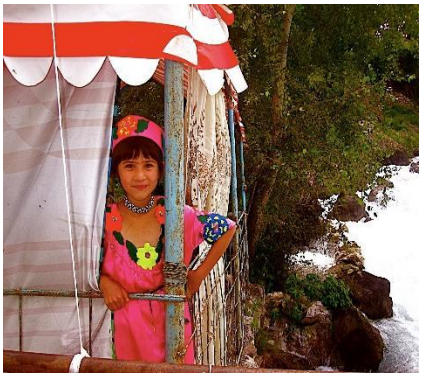
SILK ROAD
TREASURE TOURS

2022 SILK ROAD STUDY TOUR

(UZBEKISTAN &TAJIKISTAN)











Travel to Central Asia, where the doors to history, civilization, and the warmest welcome in the world are our pleasure to open for you. This is our homeland, and every visitor is an honoured guest. Central Asia rewards the intrepid and the curious, its routes dotted with UNESCO World Heritage Sites and its magnificent landscapes unfold like a fabled Turkmen carpet. The local experts at Silk Road Treasure Tours know the perfect sites, the hidden gems, the right people, and the best times to go. Steep yourself in 3,000 years of culture and traditions, whether in a vibrant capital city, behind sun-warmed adobe walls, in a village nestled in a lush valley or a nomadic yurt under a sky of blazing stars. Explore palaces, medresseh, fortresses, and caravanserais from by-gone eras amidst classic Soviet architecture, soaring minarets, brilliant blue cupolas, lace-like ornamentation and brilliant ceramics of medieval mausoleums and mosques, and the bustling bazaars - still as busy now as they were hundreds of years ago, where anything is available and everything is on display.

Highlights:

1. Explore magnificent architecture, museums, minarets and madrassahs, handicraft workshops, bustling bazaars, and tea houses of Uzbekistan
2. Explore historic Jewish sites in neighborhoods and villages; synagogues, merchant's houses, Jacob's Well and the Tomb of Daniel.
1. Discover the cultural treasures of Uzbekistan, its spectacular landscapes, Silk Road cities and villages.
2. Attend services at local synagogues
3. Meet local families, craftsmen and merchants
4. Enjoy traditional music and dance performances.
5. Bake bread or Uzbekistan pilaf with locals

Day 1. June 1, 2022. Istanbul-Tashkent

Evening departure for Tashkent. Arrival in Tashkent at 1:05AM TK 370 (June 2nd morning) You will be met at the airport by tour guide/manager Ms. Mashura and will be transferred to the **Inspira Hotel** for accommodation.

Address: Abdulla Kadiriy str. 6A, Tashkent, Uzbekistan Ph:99878 140 1001

Day 2. June 2, 2022 Tashkent

Overview and introductions.

1:05 am: Arrival in Tashkent. Go to hotel to bathe and sleep.
11:00: Face-to-face meeting and orientation.
12:00: Lunch.
1:30-3:30: Overview of the city.
4:00-5:00: “History of Uzbekistan.”
5:30: Early dinner.
- Overnight in Tashkent International Gabrielle Hotel



Day 3. June 3, 2022 Tashkent
You will visit the old part of Tashkent to explore Kukeldash Medresseh, Kaffal Shashi Mausoleum, Barak Khan Medresseh, Mosque on Khast Imam Street. You will also see Usman Koran from the 7th century. Stop by Chor-Su Bazaar, watch craftsmen at work, and bargain for souvenirs. Enjoy watching to make bread and Pilaf demonstration at Pilaf House

Day 4. June 4, 2022 Tashkent
Visit Bukharan and Ashkenazi Synagogues where you will enjoy the tour in the museum and community center. Meet the community leaders. Later take the metro ride to visit National Museum and the Alisher Navoi Theatre. Meet students at the National University of Uzbekistan. Enjoy Legendary local composer and musician YUNUS RAJABI. Dinner. Enjoy the night panorama of the city



Day 5. June 5, 2022 Tashkent
We start sightseeing tour at the Abul Kasim complex and craft center, Oliy Majlis, Friendship square and State Art Museum of Uzbekistan. After lunch we shall visit the Independence square, Earthquake memorial and Church from the 19th century.

Day 6. June 6, 2022 Tashkent - Bukhara

Morning high speed train to Bukhara. Upon arrival you will be transferred to the hotel

Hurjin Hotel in Bukhara. Enjoy welcome lunch in Bukhara city before exploring the legendary Labi Khaus site.

Address: Poyi Ostona Str. 4, Bukhara, Uzbekistan Ph: 99893 704 0848

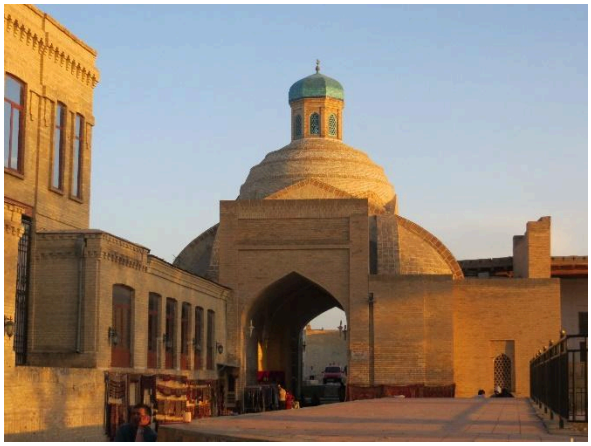


Day 7-12. June 7-12, 2022.Bukhara Exploration/education in Bukhara



Bukhara, once the intellectual center of the Islamic world can trace its origins to the 6th century BCE. One of Central Asia's holiest of cities, behind the ancient adobe walls, the backstreets are lined with spice markets, artisan and carpet shops, and the homes of families who have lived here for generations.
Beside the Lyabi Khaus pool is the largest Koranic school in Central Asia, the medieval Kulkeldash Medresseh. The Kalyan Minaret, part of the Poi-Kalyon complex dates back to 1127, a fitting symbol of old Bukhara. When Genghis Khan invaded, he left only the minaret standing, legend says that he was struck by its beauty. The city's subdued desert hues lend centuries-old buildings their own exotic air in Uzbekistan's holy city.
The Fortress Ark defended its rulers and their servants over the centuries while some sixty caravanserais could be found within the city for traders and travelers.

Meet outstanding composers and musicians and learn the secrets of Shashmakom, Makam and Mavrigi. Rauf Avezov, his Bukhorcha group of dancers and musicians join us for performance and amazing talk at Bukhara office





We'll visit the Magoki Attari, originally a Zoroastrian temple and the oldest surviving mosque in Central Asia which now hosts a carpet museum displaying examples of the distinctive colors and patterns of the region, the Abdulazizkhan Medresseh with its sandali (the original home space heater), the winter residence of the local rulers from the 1st century.

After seeing the four, blue-domed minarets of the unique Chor Minor complex, we'll explore Sitorai Mohi-Khossa or Palace of Moon and Stars. This magnificent summer residence of the last Bukharan Emir reflects a fusion of both Oriental and Russian architecture and design and the harem building now houses a Museum of Applied Arts with displays of suzani - traditional regional embroidery. We will have several lunches with local families during our stay in Bukhara.

Enjoy the cultural events of Bukhara, visit the local families in the close by villages. Connect with Minoja people, cook Pilaf and make embroidery items and other crafts, see the process of baking bread, visit the farm and pick your fruits and vegetable with locals, dance with them for the traditional and American music.

During our stay in Bukhara we will also visit Sufi Center Bahauddin Nakshbandi Complex and Chor Bakr Complexes located outside of Bukhara. Ceramic lovers and embroidery fams can learn the secrets of embroidery and ceramics from the award-winning local artists whose exhibitions displayed around the glove. These artists are the descendants of craftsmen from 16-17th centuries. University connections.





Folklore show at the Nadir Divan Begi. Originally designed as a caravanserai in the 1600's it was then hastily converted to a medresseh to cover for an Imam's mistake! The show features local dancers and singers and a fashion show displaying gorgeous costumes handcrafted by Uzbek designers well-known

for incorporating the country's rich fabrics and intricate designs. Participation in local festivals.



Day 13. June 13, 2022 Bukhara-Khiva

After completing a tour in Bukhara we will take a bus to Khiva. You will be met by team and accommodated at the **New Star Khiva** Hotel located in the heart of Khiva. Enjoy the exploration in this magic city of Khiva. Free time

Address: Anash Halfa Street, Khiva, Khorezm, Uzbekistan Ph: 99899 5004661







Day 14. June 14, 2022 Khiva

Khiva was the former capital of the Khanate and legend says that it was founded by Shem, the son of Noah. The daytime streets are lively with artisans, souvenir sellers and fellow travelers, much as it was when all caravans passed through here on the way to China. The Ichan Kala (Old City), is surrounded by high walls of air-dried bricks and decorated with delicate majolica tile in lovely shades of green and turquoise, wonderfully restored during Soviet rule. Every site and monument here is unique; the Ata –Darvaza (West Gate), the short, squat looking Kalta Minar minaret, the medresseh of Mohammad Amin, the Kunya Ark, the Pahlavan Mahmud Mausoleum with its tiled proverbs, the Khodja Islam medresseh and its minaret - the tallest structure in Khiva.The Tash Hauli Palace has a few remaining rooms to see in the harem area, and through the doors of the caravansarai built high enough for camels you'll find the "tim" or bazaar. There's a peaceful, cool retreat amongst the 200 carved pillars of the Juma Mosque.

Day 15. June 15, 2022 Khiva-Ayaz Kala_Tuprak Kala-Nomadic Yurt stay

Sightseeing day tour to Ayaz Kala, Khorezm Shakhs Place to explore the archaeological jewels of Central Asia. Stop by the lake for the picnic and photography. Later we drive to the yurt to experience the nomadic life. Enjoy sunset photography, entertainment at the campfire, and dinner under open sky!



Day 16. June 16, 2022 Kalas – Khiva-Bukhara

Enjoy riding a camel (the cost is optional, on your own risk), hiking, photography and return to Bukhara by our tourism bus.

Upon arrival in Bukhara, you will be transferred to the hotel Hurjun. Labi Khaus restaurant dinner and dance

Day 17-18. June 17-18, 2022 Bukhara

Day trip to Gijduvan Silk Road city to see 14th century Ulugbek Medreseh, Gijduvaniy complex. This is also the home of one of the principal schools of ceramics in Uzbekistan. On the way we will stop by silk road cities of Vabkent where we will explore the sufi center of Fakhnaviy and 12th century minaret. Return to Bukhara.

Visit Gavkushon complex and Biyankhanikhan Mongolian mausoleums before visiting medresehs. Enjoy meetings with the students of medreseh.





Enjoy dinner with local students and teachers and practice your Uzbek and Tajik/Persian.



Day 19. June 19, 2022 Bukhara-Samarkand

Golden Road to Samarkand through Malikchul desert and the Zerafshan River. Stop by an ancient caravanserai gate Rabota Malik and 16th century Sardoba. Arrival in Samarkand in the afternoon. Accommodation at BiBIKHANUM Boutique Hotel. Samarkand is the place whwere Alexander the Great married to his love Roxana.

We start the exploration of this legendary city by visiting Registan Square, the main attraction here, an impressive venue for holiday celebrations and music festivals – the symbol of Samarkand.

Address: Tashkent Street 10, Samarkand, near Bibikhanum Mosque, Uzbekistan

Ph: 998 78 2100811



Day 20. June 20, 2022 Samarkand

Then we visit Amir Timur Mausoleum, Bibi Khanum Mosque and Bustling Siyob bazaar.

This afternoon we will visit magnificent Shahi Zinda ensemble which includes ancient mausoleums which date back from the 9th century. We will also visit Khodjai Hizr Complex and the mausoleum of first president of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov.

Day 21-22. June 21-22, 2022 Samarkand

We will also explore the mausoleum of Khoja Akhror Wali, Al Bukhari Pilgrimage centers and silk paper factories. Meeting at the University of Samarkand with teachers and students. Folk Performance. Explore the ruins of Afrasiab. Then visit Afrasiyab Museum and Ulugbek Observatory. The tour is given by local professor and outstanding curator of Uzbekistan.



Day 23. June 23, 2022 Samarkand-Penjikent (Tajikistan)

Early morning departure for drive to Uzbekistan-Tajikistan border. Border Formalities. Arrival in Penjikent. The city of Penjikent ("five villages") is located in a picturesque Zeravshan river. valley. It is more than 3000 years old and the center of culture, education and trade in the 5th century during sogdians. It was called “Central Asian Pompeii". In addition to seeing this fascinating city, its ancient ruins and sacred places we will also visit the bazaar and museum. Panjekent Plaza Hotel

Address: Rudaki Ave Street 17, Penjikent, Tajikistan Ph: +992 92 9867200

Day 24. June 24, 2022 Penjikent -Fann Mountains-Iskandar Kul Lake-Dushanbe

Scenic drive to Dushanbe through Fann Mountains and Villages. Enjoy picnic at the Iskandar Kul Lake. Fan Mountains – a popular tourism destinations on earth where travelers enjoy photography, hiking and tracking. There are more than 100 passes the heights are which from 3200 to 5060 m (Mirali).You will also be guests of Saratog Village and enjoy lunch. Continue sightseeing tour to Dushanbe through breathtakingly beautiful valleys. Arrival and accommodation at **Atlas Hotel.**

Address: Nisor Muhammad Street, Dushanbe, Tajikistan Ph: 992 44 625 1818

Day 25-26. June 25-26, 2022 Dushanbe

Explore the capital city of Dushanbe. Visit the monument of Ismail Samani, the founder of the Samanid Kingdom in the IX century, the Museum of National Antiquity, the Opera and Ballet Theatre. Enjoy the tour around the bazaar and the popular tea house. Drive to Hissar Fortress, to see the remains of an ancient caravanserai, the mausoleum and medreseh. Photo opportunity at the Nature Reserve. Meeting with Tajik students and teachers, practice your Persian and the locals practice their English.

Day 27. June 27, 2022 Dushanbe-Khodjand

Morning drive to 3000 years old Khodjand city. Visit Temurmalik fortress, the museum of Archeology and History, fascinating Friday Mosque and Silk Road Sunday Bazaar. Visit Pushkin Square and Mosque of Muslih al-Din. **Firuz Hotel.**

Address: Lenin Street 223, Khodjand, Tajikistan +992 92 867 2222

Day 28. June 28, 2022 Khodjand-Tashkent.

Drive to Tashkent. After border formalities we continue our driving to the capital city of Tashkent. Upon arrival you will be accommodated at the hotel Inspira and have free time. Farewell Dinner located in Tashkent Mahalla (PCR TEST at the hotel)

Address: Abdulla Kadiriy str. 6A, Tashkent, Uzbekistan Ph:99878 140 1001

Day 29. June 29, 2022 Tashkent.

Trip Conclusions

Day for individual curriculum development meetings and final exploration. **Farewell dinner** - Overnight in Tashkent. You will be transferred to the airport at 12AM to take your international flight at 02:45AM to your next Destination.

Day 30. June 30, 2022 Tashkent.

Morning departure

30 days/29 Nights

This tour program includes:

1. Accommodation in double occupancy (3-star hotels and boutique Hotels in ancient cities)
2. Visa support for Uzbekistan, Tajikistan
3. Meals: Breakfast and Dinner and 4 lunches
4. Transportation throughout the trip
5. Escort Guide-Manager in each country
6. High speed train Tashkent-Bukhara

7. Picnics and tea stops
8. Teachings and meetings with students and professors
9. Meetings with Rabbi in Bukhara subject to change
10. Lectures by curators or/ history professors
11. Visit the schools and meeting with welcome concerts by students/teachers (schools may be closed in summer)
12. Water every day
13. Entrance fees to all the sights in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
14. Folklore shows in Bukhara, Samarkand and Dushanbe
15. Pre departure Travel package

The tour program doesn't include:

1. International Flights From/To US or any other flights
2. Charges in hotels for additional services and meals not mentioned