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For the foreseeable future, the Uzbekistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Uzbekistan online E-Visa website is not accepting any applications for travellers from a number of countries worldwide. Please ensure you check visa information specific to your destination and nationality found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page using this [link](#).



## **Uzbekistan: Samarkand, Bukhara & the Ancient Silk Road**

9 days, Tashkent to Tashkent

Trip code AUUT

## What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group, Tashkent
- Your Local Living Moment: Plov Cooking Class and Dinner, Samarkand
- Your OMG Day: Your OMG Day: Leather Making or Embroidery Workshop at Traditions Square, Samarkand
- Arrival transfer
- Welcome Dinner
- Internal trains
- Visit Afrosiab Museum
- Hands-on paper workshop
- Guided tour of Registan Square
- Visit Gur-e-Amir Mausoleum
- Visit Shah-i-Zinda complex
- Guided city tour of Bukhara
- Included dinner with folklore music performance
- Home-hosted plov cooking class and dinner
- Visit Bibi-Khanym Mosque
- Visit Siyob Bazaar
- Visit Ark Fortress (Citadel)
- Visit Po-i-Kalyan Complex
- Visit Lyabi-Khauz ensemble
- Guided walking tour of Khiva
- Internal flights
- Guided city tour of Tashkent
- Visit to Chorsu Bazaar
- Farewell dinner
- All transfers in between destinations

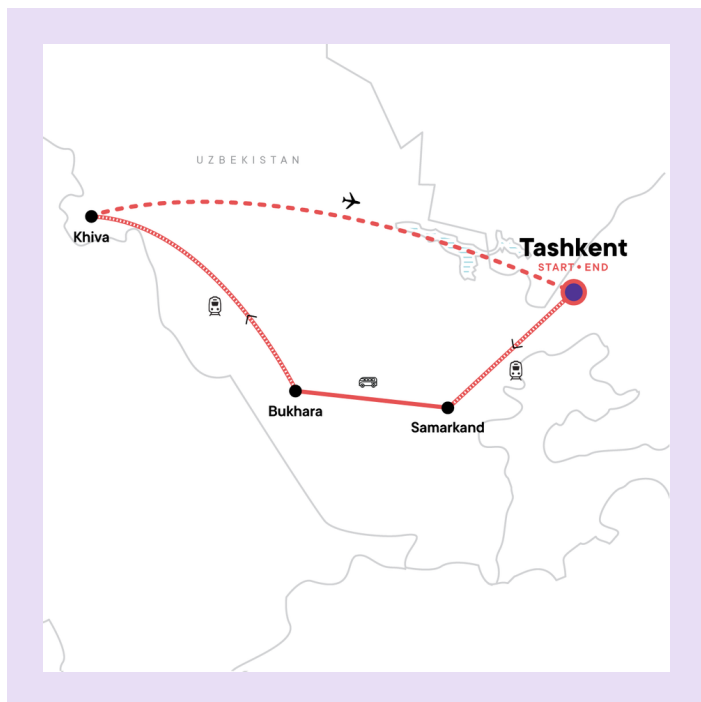
The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing February 3rd, 2026 and onwards

# Itinerary

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Tashkent

From the wide boulevards and buzzing cafés of Tashkent to the storybook skyline of Khiva, Uzbekistan unfolds like a living Silk Road manuscript – layered, intricate, and impossible to rush. Along the way, the mosaic-clad majesty of Samarkand and the timeless alleyways of Bukhara invite you to step beyond the present and into centuries of trade, scholarship, and cultural exchange. Begin your adventure with a transfer to your hotel, followed by a welcome dinner where you can immerse yourself in the flavors and warmth of Uzbek hospitality.



### Meals included

Dinner



### Accommodation

Farovon Hotel Tashkent (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Arrival Transfer

Tashkent International Airport – Tashkent

30m-45m

11km

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel to start your adventure.

Tashkent Orientation Walk

Tashkent

Join your CEO for an orientation walk through Tashkent. Get to know the area around your hotel better explore some of this awesome city.

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group. After your welcome meeting, join an included welcome dinner with your group.

Today, begin your journey to Samarkand. Embark on a high-speed Afrosiyob train ride to Samarkand, a journey that covers 344 km in just under 2 hours. Start at the Afrosiab Museum, home to remarkable archaeological finds from ancient Afrasiab—the original settlement of Samarkand—offering insight into the city’s pre-Mongol grandeur. After time for lunch at leisure, continue to the breathtaking Shah-i-Zinda, a stunning avenue of mausoleums adorned with intricate tilework and vibrant blue mosaics, one of the most sacred and photogenic sites in the region. Later, join a hands-on experience: a home-hosted plov cooking class and dinner, where you’ll learn to prepare Uzbekistan’s national dish and share the meal with your hosts. A day of history, color, and culinary tradition comes to a delicious close.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



## Accommodation

CONTINENTAL Hotel Samarkand (or similar)

Hotel



## Today’s Activities

Train

Tashkent - Samarkand

2h-2h30m

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Afrosiab Museum Visit

Samarkand

Visit the Afrosiab Museum, home to remarkable 7th-century wall paintings that reveal the political, cultural, and diplomatic life of the ancient Sogdian city of Afrasiab.

### ACTIVITY

Visit a local family and learn how to make Plov, a traditional dish found all throughout Central Asia that varies from country to country and household to household. In Uzbekistan, it's most often a combination of rice, carrots, onions and lamb cooked in a massive cast iron, wok-like pan. Enjoy the delicious results for dinner.

Day 3

## Your OMG Day: Samarkand

Get ready for your OMG day in Samarkand! Start with a guided tour of the city's must-see treasures: the stunning Gur-e-Amir Mausoleum, final resting place of Timur, followed by the iconic Registan Square, and the grand Bibi-Khanym Mosque. Wander through the lively Siyob Bazaar before heading to Konigil Village for lunch and a workshop on traditional Samarkand silk paper-making.

In the afternoon, you'll have the chance to customize your experience with a hands-on artisan activity at Traditions Square—choose between leather-making or embroidery—and then enjoy free time to relax or continue exploring this incredible city.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

CONTINENTAL Hotel Samarkand (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Guided tour of Samarkand

Samarkand

Begin your guided city tour of Samarkand at the majestic Gur-e-Amir Mausoleum, the final resting place of the legendary conqueror Timur, known for its stunning blue-tiled dome and intricate mosaics. Then, continue to the iconic Registan Square, the historic heart of the city, where three grand madrasahs showcase the pinnacle of Timurid architecture and centuries of cultural heritage.

Bibi-Khanym Mosque & Siyob Bazaar

Samarkand

Visit the Bibi-Khanym Mosque, marveling at its soaring domes and intricate tilework, once one of the largest mosques in the Islamic world. Then, visit the Siyob Bazaar, where you can experience the sights, smells, and flavors of local life with fresh produce, spices, breads, and handmade crafts.

Lunch and Silk Paper Making Workshop at Konigil Village

Samarkand

Visit the Village of Konigil, on the banks of the ancient Siab Canal. Here you can learn about and witness some of the historic traditions of Uzbekistan. Pay a visit to the old Silk Paper Workshop and learn for yourself how to make paper in this ancient method before an included lunch.

#### ACTIVITY

Immerse yourself in Samarkand's rich artisan heritage at Traditions Square with a hands-on workshop. Either experience offers a unique opportunity to connect with the city's living traditions and take home a one-of-a-kind souvenir of your visit.

Option 1: Craft your own leather masterpiece, a material historically prized in Samarkand for its use in saddles, shoes, and decorative goods along the Silk Road.

Option 2: Learn and practice the intricate art of traditional embroidery, where vibrant patterns tell stories of centuries-old craftsmanship.

Today, travel from Samarkand to Bukhara, one of Uzbekistan's most captivating Silk Road cities. Along the way, visit the Al Bukhari Complex to see the remains from the 11th-century Rabat-i Malik Caravanserai, and a traditional pottery workshop in Gijduvan, where artisans continue centuries-old ceramic traditions. Enjoy lunch at the pottery workshop before continuing your journey. Arrive in Bukhara and check in to your hotel. Visit the beautiful Lyabi Khauz ensemble, a historic plaza framed by madrasahs and a serene pond before a free evening to explore Bukhara at your leisure.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Lyabi House Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Lyabi House Hotel is a charming boutique stay set in a restored 19th-century ayvan, once the House of the Bukharian Jew, in Bukhara's old town. Near Lyab-i Hauz, it blends carved wood columns, painted ceilings, and colorful tilework with modern comforts, peaceful courtyards, and a terrace serving traditional Uzbek cuisine.



## Today's Activities

Visit Al Bukhari Complex

Samarkand

Visit the Imam al-Bukhari Memorial Complex, a serene pilgrimage site honoring renowned 9th-century scholar Muhammad al-Bukhari, where elegant domes and peaceful courtyards celebrate his lasting influence on Islamic scholarship.

Gijduvan Pottery Workshop & Lunch

Bukhara

Stop at a traditional pottery workshop in Gijduvan to watch artisans craft distinctive hand-painted ceramics using centuries-old techniques, followed by a relaxing lunch featuring local Uzbek flavors.

Private Vehicle

Samarkand - Bukhara

4h30m-5h

262km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Explore the heart of Bukhara on foot, beginning at the Samanid Mausoleum, one of the oldest and most revered monuments in Central Asia. Fun fact: it's considered one of the finest examples of early Islamic architecture in the region, built entirely of baked bricks without any wood or stone. Continue to Chashma Ayub, the legendary "Job's Well," believed to have sprung from the ground when the prophet struck it with his staff, then visit the elegant Bolo-Khauz Mosque, known for its beautifully painted wooden columns reflected in the tranquil pool before it.

From there, step into history at the Ark Fortress, Bukhara's ancient citadel and seat of power for centuries, before concluding at the magnificent Po-i-Kalyan Complex, a breathtaking ensemble of mosque, minaret, and madrasa that defines the city's skyline.

Enjoy free time in the afternoon to explore Bukhara at your own pace, soaking in the city's timeless charm and vibrant streets. In the evening, savor a traditional dinner accompanied by a lively folklore performance, rounding out a day of history, culture, and local flavor.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



## Accommodation

Lyabi House Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

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## Today's Activities

Bukhara Walking Tour: Ark Fortress & Po-i-Kalyan

Bukhara

3h30m

Walk from the hotel to the Ark Fortress, an imposing citadel with centuries of history. Continue on foot to visit the Po-i-Kalyan Complex, featuring iconic minarets and mosques.

Guided city tour in Bukhara

Bukhara

2h30m-3h

Enjoy a guided city tour exploring Bukhara's architectural highlights, including the Ismail Samani Mausoleum, Chashma Ayub, and the Bolo-Khauz Mosque.

Free Time

Bukhara

Enjoy free time in the afternoon to explore Bukhara at your leisure.

Dinner & folklore music performance

Bukhara

Enjoy an enchanting evening in Bukhara with a traditional dinner accompanied by a folklore performance. Savor authentic Uzbek dishes while musicians play traditional instruments and dancers bring the region's vibrant history and culture to life.

Day 6

## Bukhara/Khiva

Travel by train from Bukhara to Khiva, a UNESCO World Heritage site famed for its perfectly preserved medieval walls and historic architecture. Upon arrival, take an orientation walking tour inside Itchan-Qala, the walled old town filled with minarets, madrassahs, and charming streets. Spend the evening at leisure to explore Khiva on your own, soaking in the city's unique atmosphere and timeless charm.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

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### Accommodation

Khiva Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

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### Today's Activities

Train

Bukhara – Khiva

6h-6h

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Khiva Orientation Walk

Khiva

Explore a bit of Khiva alongside your group on an orientation walk.

Free Time

Khiva

Enjoy an evening to explore Khiva at your leisure.

Day 7

## Khiva/Tashkent

Begin the day with a guided walking tour of Khiva, exploring the UNESCO-listed Itchan-Kala and its architectural treasures, including the wooden-columned Juma Mosque, the striking turquoise-tiled Kalta Minor, and the historic Kunya Ark. Enjoy some free time before transferring to Urgench International Airport for your flight back to Tashkent, where you can soak up more of the capital's vibrant atmosphere this evening.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

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### Accommodation

Farovon Hotel Tashkent (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

Khiva Ancient City Exploration

Khiva

4h

Khiva feels like a museum city, with well-preserved city walls and ancient monuments. Wander the city on a guided tour, learn about life here and its important place in history.

Ichan-Qala (Itchan Kala) Visit

Khiva

Check out the sand-coloured brick structures populating the inner walls of the Ichan-Qala through the walled inner town of Khiva.

Private Vehicle

Khiva – Urgench International Airport

1h-1h15m

42km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Plane

Khiva – Tashkent

1h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Private Vehicle

Tashkent

30m-30m

11km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 8

## Tashkent

Discover Tashkent, a dynamic capital shaped by both Silk Road heritage and striking Soviet-era design. Begin by exploring the city's Soviet side at Amir Temur Square, the symbolic heart of modern Tashkent. From here, stroll along lively Tashkent Broadway to Independence Square, one of the country's most important civic spaces, reflecting Uzbekistan's post-independence identity. Then, descend into the beautifully decorated Tashkent Metro, renowned for its ornate stations, and ride to Chorsu Bazaar. From here, enjoy free time to explore the bustling bazaar at your own pace—soaking in the colors, aromas, and flavors of local life. You may choose to walk back to the hotel or connect with your CEO for assistance with optional activities tailored to your interests.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Accommodation

Farovon Hotel Tashkent (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Guided tour of Tashkent

Tashkent

Embark on a half-day guided adventure through Tashkent's vibrant heart—explore the bustling Chorsu Bazaar, soak in the history at Amir Temur Square, and dive underground to discover the stunning art of the Tashkent Metro.

Free Time

Tashkent

In the afternoon, enjoy free time to explore Tashkent at your leisure.

Farewell Dinner in Tashkent

Tashkent

Say farewell to Uzbekistan and your fellow group members with a farewell dinner overlooking the city skyline.



### Optional Activities - Day 8

Visit to Islamic Civilization Center

Tashkent

35USD

Visit the Islamic Civilization Center to explore the rich legacy of Islamic culture. The museum showcases ancient manuscripts, scientific instruments, textiles, ceramics, and stunning calligraphy, highlighting innovations in astronomy, medicine, and mathematics centuries ahead of Europe. Immerse yourself in centuries of art, science, and craftsmanship that shaped the Islamic world.

Day 9

## Tashkent

Your journey comes to an end with an transfer from your hotel to Tashkent International Airport. Depart at your leisure, taking with you memories of turquoise domes, ancient Silk Road cities, and the warm hospitality of Uzbekistan.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Departure Transfer

Tashkent - Tashkent International Airport

30m-30m

11km

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to the airport at the end of your adventure.

## What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group, Tashkent
- Your Local Living Moment: Plov Cooking Class and Dinner, Samarkand
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- Visit Lyabi-Khauz ensemble
- Guided walking tour of Khiva
- Internal flights
- Guided city tour of Tashkent
- Visit to Chorsu Bazaar
- Farewell dinner
- All transfers in between destinations

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Stand before Registan Square – one of the Silk Road's greatest stages, Cook plov with a local family and hand-craft traditional Uzbek paper, Sleep in a converted Jewish house deep in Bukhara's old city, Wander Khiva's ancient walled city among minarets and mosques, Sample honim and lose yourself in Tashkent's Chorsu Bazaar

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## **Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?**

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

# What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

## ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

## CULTURE

Central Asia is a region which may be very different to anything you have experienced before. Mixture of Soviet heritage and Islam, summer heat and winter cold, religious conservatism, traffic and crowds can result in initial culture shock but should be seen as an exciting new challenge.

## DRESS CODE

Though you can see lots of people in traditional clothes, Central Asia has adopted western style clothing as well. Don't hesitate to pack your usual travel clothes: in summer it can be shorts and t-shirts, sandals etc. We recommend not to bring tank tops/singlets and any types of clothes with bare shoulders and backs - it is unacceptable in most areas, even in bigger cities. Our tour takes us to many religious sights, where dress code is very strict. We recommend women to have a headscarf in their day bags to cover up when going inside mosques (it's also a great help in the heat in summer). Best things to pack for the hot Central Asian climate is loose, long clothing - long trousers and sarongs or long skirts for women. In colder months (from the end of October through the end of April) it can rain and snow - bring warm clothes, jackets and comfortable warm shoes for walking.

## MONEY

Due to the restrictions on changing money in Central Asia region, only notes/bills printed after 1996 and in good condition will be accepted for exchange. Usually 50 and 100 USD/EUR notes get better exchange rate. We recommend to bring smaller denominations as well - many vendors accept them if you don't have local currency.

## RAMADAN

According to the lunar cycle, Ramadan will fall between Feb 28th - Mar 29th 2025, and Feb 17th - Mar 19th 2026. Please note that Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world, during which time the followers of Islam should not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset. There may be some limitations to services and disruptions to schedules during Ramadan, but generally our tours still operate effectively during this period and food is available to non-Muslims throughout the day. It is very important to display increased cultural sensitivity during Ramadan. Please wear loose fitting clothes, that cover knees and shoulders, and try to avoid eating, drinking or smoking in public out of respect for those who can't at that time.

# What is the role of the group leader during this trip?

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officers (CEO). The aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

## **How large will the group be?**

Max 16, avg 12

## **What meals are included in this trip?**

8 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners

## **What are the meals like on this trip?**

While traveling with us you will experience the vast array of wonderful food available in the world. Generally, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat, not all meals are included in the trip price. This also gives you more budgeting flexibility. As a rule our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favorite restaurants during your trip. Please check the 'meal inclusions' section below for details of meals included.

## **What are the modes of transportation on my trip?**

Private Vehicle, Plane, Train, Walking.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotels (8 nts)

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through G Adventures in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you once you pass Customs & exit from the airport building, please go to the WAITING AREA building, where your driver will meet you inside the building.

If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

If your call is specifically concerning Airport Transfer complications please call our local G Adventures Transfer provider directly at:

Mr Zokir +998 97 462 99 24

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office Central Asia:

Mr Laziz Otayarov (Operations Manager - Central Asia)

Mobile 1: +99890 963 4779 (24h)

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What information should I be aware of as the itinerary draws to a close?

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to the airport at the end of your adventure.

## **Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?**

What you need to bring will vary according to the trip style you have chosen, the countries you are visiting and when you are travelling. Generally speaking though, you should pack as lightly as possible. On the vast majority of our trips you are expected to carry your own luggage (please see below for exceptions), and though you will not be required to walk long distances with your luggage (max 30 minutes) we recommend keeping the weight under 10kg/22lb.

Suitcases are not recommended for G Adventures travellers! Most travellers carry their luggage in a backpack, although an overnight bag with a shoulder strap would suffice if you travel lightly. Smaller bags with wheels are acceptable, although we recommend your bag has carry straps as well, as you may be required to negotiate bus and railway station steps. You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water and a camera etc for day walks and day trips.

# What should be on my packing list?

## Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

## Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

**Essentials:**

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

**Health & Safety:**

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

**Train Travel (Optional):**

- Slip-on shoes
- Small container with lid
- Travel cutlery
- Travel or camp cup

### **Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

## **When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## **What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?**

Please note that visas are the responsibility of the individual traveller. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as much as possible, but rules do change. It is important that you check for yourself with the Embassy. Please, keep in mind that all countries require passports valid for at least 6 months from the moment of departure from the country.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

### **UZBEKISTAN**

If you require a Letter of Invitation (LOI) to apply for a Uzbekistan visa, please fill out & submit the following request [form](#)

You must have at least two blank passport pages available for each country you will visit on your tour. These are required for entry & exit stamps.

Information accurate as of April 1st, 2024.

## **What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## **How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Do I need to pay a departure tax?

All departure taxes should be included in your international flight ticket.

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

In Central Asia It is not customary to tip service providers such as waiters, but it is very appreciated, depending on the service we recommend 3-5%. Tipping shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$4 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$4-7 USD per person, per day can be used.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Tashkent

- Visit to Islamic Civilization Center (35USD per person)

## Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that sometimes we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. In Asia pharmacies tend to stock the same western drugs as you get at home but they are usually produced locally so please bring the full drug name with you when trying to purchase a prescription drug. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

## What are the trip specific safety considerations?

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

Central Asian dress is quite conservative. Plan to pack loose-fitting light clothing appropriate for hot weather and plan to cover knees, shoulders and chest. For women, a hair scarf is recommended, though they are easy to buy in country.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.