

21 DAY BUCKET LIST TOUR

BEST OF THE STANS

\$5699

PER
PERSON
TWIN
SHARE

KAZAKHSTAN • KYRGYZSTAN • TAJIKISTAN • UZBEKISTAN

THE OFFER

A bucket list destination three thousand years in the making, the Silk Road is one of the true icons of Central Asia. Crossing vast deserts and towering mountain ranges, weaving through exotic cities and remote villages untouched by the passage of time, every inch of this ancient trade route is potentially more beautiful than the last. Isn't it time you experienced its wonders for yourself?

This 21 day tour is a chance to take in the historic cities and landscapes of four countries along the Silk Road - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Enjoy a day in Almaty, the largest city in Kazakhstan; witness dramatic rock formations in Charyn Canyon; go horse riding and make bread with a local family at a traditional Kyrgyz yurt camp; and admire the Russian-influenced architecture of Karakol on the shores of Lake Issyk-Kul. Journey to the iconic city of Samarkand, home to the exquisite Registan Square; ignite your senses with a stroll through colourful Osh Bazaar; see Poi Kalon and Kalon Minaret on a city tour of Bukhara; travel to the ancient city of Shakhrisabz; visit the Museum of Antiquities in Dushanbe - plus a whole lot more! Package includes return flights, 17 nights accommodation, one night a Kyrgyz yurt camp, and more.

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**Trip
aDeal**
Est. 2011

Offer available for a limited time or until sold out. TRIP A DEAL PTY LTD: 50149240433

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THE ITINERARY

Day 1 Australia - Almaty, Kazakhstan

Today depart from either Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane for Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Please note some passengers may fly via South Korea with an overnight layover. Complimentary hotel accommodation will be provided by the airline.

Meals included: In-Flight

Day 2 Arrive Almaty, Kazakhstan

Upon arrival in Almaty this evening you will be transferred to the hotel.

Overnight: Plaza Hotel or similar, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Meals included: In-Flight

Day 3 Almaty Sightseeing Tour

This morning set out on a city tour of Almaty, the southern capital of Kazakhstan and largest city in the country. During the city tour you will see beautiful wooden Russian buildings - Zenkov Cathedral, the ex-assembly house of Czar officers and an apparel shop (1903 - 1908). You will visit the 28 Panfilov's Guardsmen Park, Zenkov Cathedral, Museum of History and Republic Square.

In the afternoon continue onwards to the picturesque Big Almaty Lake, where the turquoise surface reflects the surrounding peaks almost like a mirror. This evening you will experience a Sunkar show where you will learn about birds of prey - how they are used for hunting, their history, lifestyle and organic traits. Five to seven species of birds take part in the show.

Afterwards, enjoy dinner and return to the hotel for an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Plaza Hotel or similar, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 4 Almaty Free Day

Today enjoy the day at leisure to either relax or explore Almaty. Alternatively, you can take the opportunity to join an optional activity (not included).

Optional Activity: Half Day Medeo Gorge & Kok-Tobe Tour - \$125 per person

Today travel to picturesque Medeo Gorge, which is located 25km from Almaty and has an altitude of over 2000m. It hosts the highest mountain skate ring in the world, as well as the largest skiing resort of the region. On the way stop by a dam which protects the city from avalanches and mudslides, which have been known to cascade from the slopes. Take a cable car trip to the top to enjoy an amazing panorama of Tien-Shan Mountains. Later return to Almaty to enjoy a cable car trip at Kok-Tobe recreational area to witness a panorama of Almaty and surroundings.

Overnight: Plaza Hotel or similar, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5 Almaty - Charyn Canyon, Kazakhstan - Karakol, Kyrgyzstan (approx. 400km day)

This morning head towards the amazing Charyn Canyon, often described as the Grand Canyon of Kazakhstan. The dramatic erosion made by the river Charyn has created an impressive landscape of red-coloured rocky formations that

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resemble castles, leading the canyon to be nicknamed the Valley of Castles. It's spectacular during the day, as well as under a star-lit sky.

Afterwards cross the Kyrgyz-Kazakh border. After all border procedures continue on to Karakol via the scenic Karkara Valley, famous for its mountain flowers that attract many beekeepers. Tonight enjoy dinner with an ethnic Uighur family to taste the national cuisine of Lagman. Lagman is a traditional Uighur dish made of pulled noodles, meat and vegetables. You will be able to see and help with the process of making and cooking Lagman.

Afterwards transfer to the hotel for an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Green Yard Hotel or similar, Karakol, Kyrgyzstan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 6 Karakol City Tour - Bokonbayevo (approx. 120km day)

A visit to Karakol town is like stepping back in time a hundred years to an age of Tsarist Russia. This morning head out on a city tour to visit old Russian style houses (1870 – 1910), Russian Orthodox Church (1886) and Dungan Mosque (1899) made out of wood with no nails.

After the tour, transfer to Jeti-Oguz Gorge. Here you will have an opportunity to admire fantastic rock formations made of red sandstone, as well as local pastures which have long been used by shepherds to graze flocks of sheep and herds of horses.

Continue along the southern shore of Issyk-Kul Lake. The lake sits in a hollow surrounded by the snowcapped peaks of Terskei and Kungei Ala-Tau Mountain ranges at an altitude of

1600m. Issyk-Kul Lake is 180km long, 60km wide and 700m deep. One hundred and thirty four streams and rivers flow into the lake but none flow out due to underwater tectonic activity.

Tonight arrive at a semi nomadic yurt camp where you can experience horseback riding and, in the evening, take part in a baking class to make famous Kyrgyz flat bread followed by a traditional dinner. Tonight you will sleep in a traditional Yurt home. All yurts are brightly decorated and sleep four to five people - toilet and shower facilities are outside of the yurts. A traditional yurt (as it's known in Turkic languages) is a portable, round tent covered with skins or felt and used as a dwelling by nomads in the steppes of Central Asia.

Please note:

- As yurt accommodation is on a shared basis (4-5 people per Yurt) private rooms are not provided. This applies to both twin share and solo travellers.

- All yurts have been designed in the traditional nomadic way with mattresses on wool carpeted floors (there are no bed frames).

Overnight: Almaluu Traditional Yurt Camp, Bokonbaevo, Kyrgyzstan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 7 Bokonbayevo - Burana Tower - Bishkek - Sightseeing Tour (approx. 280km day)

Today travel onwards to the capital of Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek. On the way stop at Burana Tower, a 12th century minaret built by the Turkish Karakhanids dynasty. Nowadays it's a museum complex which includes the tower itself, reconstructions of

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mausoleums found onsite, remains of the citadel, a collection of balbals (grave stones used by nomadic Turkic peoples), and petroglyphs (stone carvings), as well as a small museum.

Afterwards continue to Bishkek, the capital and largest city in Kyrgyzstan. Located at the foothill of magnificent Kyrgyz Ala-Tau mountain range, Bishkek is a city of many green parks and marble-faced public buildings, combined with numerous Soviet-style apartment blocks and thousands of smaller privately built houses. It's laid out on a grid pattern, with most streets flanked on both sides by narrow irrigation channels that water the innumerable trees which provide shade during hot summers.

The city is believed to be the greenest in Central Asia with more trees per head of population than any other. Upon arrival enjoy a sightseeing tour and visit Ala-Too Square, the main square of the city. The square serves as a place for state events and celebrations and includes many monuments, open-air picture gallery, famous Oak Park, marble government buildings and theatres. Your evening in Bishkek will culminate in a delightful dinner and folklore show, where artists will demonstrate their national musical instruments and techniques of playing.

Overnight: Plaza Hotel or similar, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 8 Bishkek - Osh - Sightseeing Tour

This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Osh (approx. 1 hour). Osh is the oldest city in Kyrgyzstan (estimated to be over 3000 years old) and the second largest in the country. The town is situated at the crossroads of the ancient trading routes that became known as the Silk Road.

The age of the city can be judged by the rock drawings and inscriptions found on the northern slope of the Suleiman Mountain, a distinctive monument in the centre of Osh. The UNESCO listed mountain, also known as Sulayman Throne, is a popular place of pilgrimage for local Muslims, with stairs leading up to the highest peak with a small mosque originally built in 1510.

Visit the brightly coloured Osh Bazaar, Historical Museum, and a local bread bakery. Get hands on with a local baker to learn how lepyoshka (also known as tandyr nan) is made, including preparing the dough, shaping and decorating the circular loaves and placing them in the tandyr oven. Afterwards visit the workshop of Zakir Aka, who has been making handmade knives for almost 60 years. This evening enjoy dinner with an Uzbek family. Your hosts will demonstrate and explain all the tricks of cooking some of Central Asia's most famous meals – such as Plov (or Pilaf).

Overnight: Osh Nuru Hotel or similar, Osh, Kyrgyzstan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

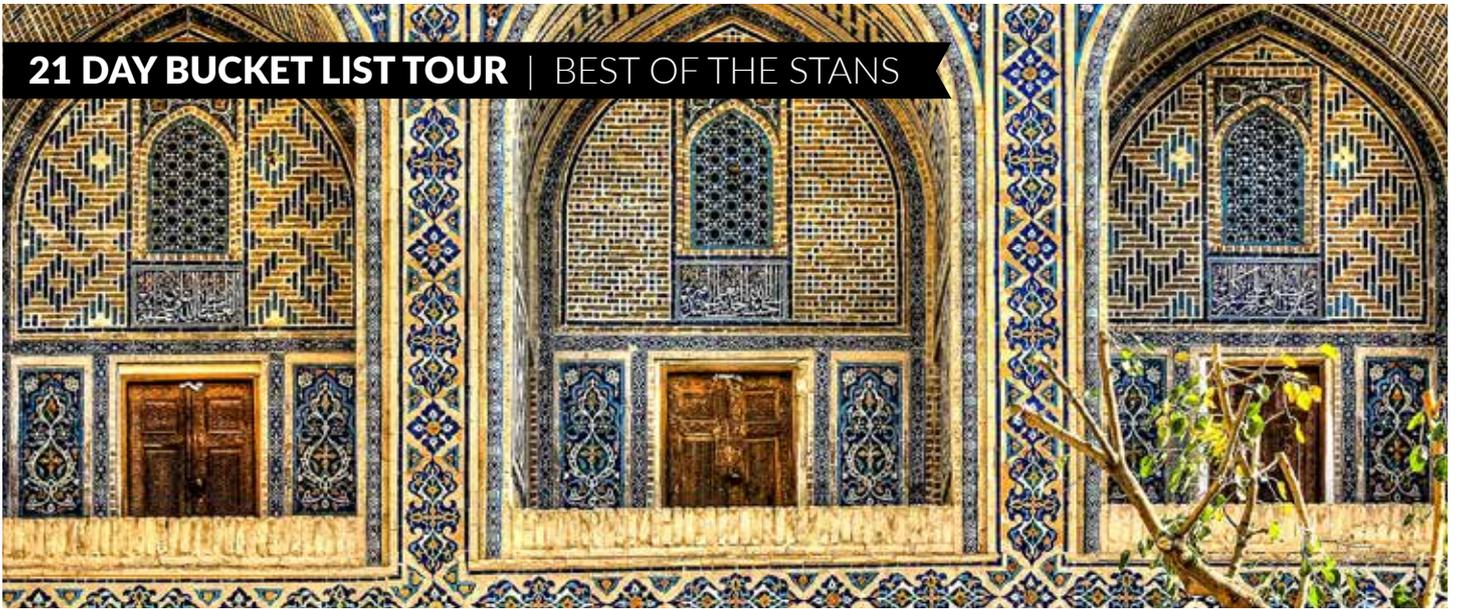
Day 9 Osh, Kyrgyzstan - Khujand, Tajikistan - Sightseeing Tour (approx. 370km day)

Today travel to Tajikistan (border crossing at Kyzyl-Bel). Upon arrival into Khujand, the country's second largest city, visit the mausoleum of Sheikh Muslihiddin - the 12th century poet and ruler of Khujand; and the Historical Museum, which is located in a citadel and the largest bazaar in Tajikistan - Payshanba. Afterwards enjoy dinner and an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Firuz or similar, Khujand, Tajikistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

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Day 10 Khujand - Istaravshan - Dushanbe (approx. 350km day)

Today drive onwards to the capital of Tajikistan, Dushanbe, via the Varzob Gorge and the Istiklol Tunnel. Stop in the ancient city of Istaravshan, founded by Persian King Cyrus the Great in the 7th century. You will visit the old town with its mosque of Shohi-Zinda and Mug Teppe, where a gigantic fortress once stood. Next travel on to Dushanbe with a couple of stops in local villages along the way. You will get the chance to be acquainted with the local people and see the day-to-day life of local farmers.

Overnight: Hotel Atlas or similar, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 11 Dushanbe Sightseeing Tour

In the Tajik language, the name of Dushanbe is translated as "Monday". It was so named as it originally had a popular market on Mondays. Areas around Dushanbe were known as a centre of cotton and silk production during the Soviet period. Though the name of the city is rather new, its historical past dates as far back as three thousand years. Archaeologists have uncovered the remains of Greek-Bactrian settlements, a settlement from the Kushan period, a Shishi Khon village and other medieval settlements.

The tour in Dushanbe will include the Museum of Antiquities, home to the UNESCO protected reclining Buddha, the largest statue of Buddha in Central Asia; the main mosque; old synagogue; Russian Orthodox Church; Rudaki Park; and the Shah-Mansur Bazaar. You will also take a trip to the 18th century Hissar Fortress, a former palace from the Emirate of Bukhara.

Overnight: Hotel Atlas or similar, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 12 Dushanbe - Penjikent - Sightseeing Tour (approx. 230km day)

Your destination today is Penjikent, a town that is very famous in tourist circles for its architectural monuments, as well as a wonderful recreation area on the coast of the Zaravshan River. On the way you will enjoy majestic views of the Fan Mountain ranges and emerald Iskandarkul Lake (2195m), which reflects the surrounding mountains. Penjikent is one of the most ancient cities of Central Asia, the venerable age of which is 5500 years. The name of the city in Russian is translated as Five Villages. After arrival in Penjikent, visit the excavation site of Old Penjikent, the 5th century 'Pompeii of Central Asia', with its former palaces and necropolises. Also visit the elegant Rudaki Museum, known for its display of textiles and costumes.

Overnight: Hotel Sughd or similar, Penjikent, Tajikistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 13 Penjikent, Tajikistan - Bukhara, Uzbekistan - Sightseeing Tour (approx. 310km day)

Today travel to the city of Bukhara. The history of Bukhara stretches back millennia. Humans have inhabited the region around Bukhara for at least five millennia, though the city has existed for only half that time. Located on the Silk Road, it has long served as a centre of trade, scholarship, culture, and religion. The city is also known as an open-air museum of mosques, madrasahs and minarets. It was the first oasis that caught the eyes of invading Arab armies. In its 2500

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year history it has constantly changed hands from one ruler to another. Enjoy a guided tour and visit sites such as the architectural complex Poi Kalon with the Kalon Minaret, Kalon Mosque and Mir-Arab Madrasah, Toki Zargaron trade-domes and Magoki Attori Mosque.

Overnight: Hotel Malika Bukhara or similar, Bukhara, Uzbekistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 14 Bukhara Sightseeing Tour

This morning visit an oriental bazaar full of traditional colours and oriental smells. Continue with a walk through Bukhara to marvel at the most beautiful architectural ensembles of mosques and madrasahs, visiting the Ark Citadel, the Mausoleum of the Samanids, Chor Minor Madrasahs, Lyabi Khauz Square, the Mausoleum Chashma Ayub and Bolo Mosque. Afterwards enjoy a folklore show in Nadir Divan Begi Madrasah followed by an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Malika Bukhara or similar, Bukhara, Uzbekistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 15 Bukhara - Shakhrisabz - Samarkand (approx. 390km day)

Today depart along the ancient silk road en route to the fabled city of Samarkand, one of the most important sites of the Silk Road. On the way visit Shakhrisabz, one of most ancient cities in Central Asia. Founded over 2700 years ago, it is the hometown of Tamerlane (Timur), a Turco-Mongol Persianate conqueror. Here you will enjoy a city tour of this city along with a visit to the famous Koba Caravanserai.

Afterwards continue onwards to Samarkand and check into the hotel where you may enjoy the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Majestik Palace or similar, Samarkand Uzbekistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 16 Samarkand Sightseeing Tour

Today enjoy a sightseeing tour of Samarkand. Visit Registan Square, which was for many centuries the heart of Samarkand. See three beautiful madrasahs: the Ulug-Bek Madrasah built in the 15th century; the Tillya-Kori Madrasah built in the 17th century and the Sher-Dor Madrasah, also built in the 17th century. Visit Gur Emir, a mausoleum of the Great Tamerlane. Dinner tonight will be at the National House of Shakhnoza. A visit to the National House (traditional restaurant) will plunge you into an atmosphere of local flavours where you will find real traditional Uzbek cuisine.

Overnight: Hotel Majestik Palace or similar, Samarkand Uzbekistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 17 Samarkand - Tashkent

This morning continue your sightseeing of Samarkand with a visit to Ulugbek Observatory - a historical monument and one of the outstanding observatories of the Middle Ages. Afterwards visit Shohi-Zinda Necropolis - an ancient architectural ensemble of Samarkand, located on the southeastern slope of Afrosiab Mountain. The ensemble includes mausoleums and other religious buildings of the XI, XIV and XIX centuries and a Silk paper manufacture which was used for many Arabic manuscripts.

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After the sightseeing tour, continue onwards to Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. Upon arrival check into the hotel and enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel City Palace or similar, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 18 Tashkent Sightseeing Tour

Today head out on a sightseeing tour of Tashkent. This wonderful city is a real embodiment of the modern elegance that is inherent in many world capitals. At the same time it remains an oriental city. Enjoy a discovery tour which will take you to ancient squares and buildings, as well as the modern part of the 2,000 year old city. Visit Kukeldash Madrasah, which still serves as a Koran School, the Khast-Imam Square with the beautiful Barak Khan Madrasah, the Tillya Sheikh Mosque and the Kaffal Shashi Mausoleum made of simple brickwork. Here you can also take a look at the Koran written by the third Caliph Osman (644 - 656). Afterwards transfer to the hotel for dinner and an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel City Palace or similar, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner

Day 19 Tashkent, Uzbekistan – Seoul, South Korea

Today check out of the hotel and take a stroll through the huge Chorsu Bazaar which will let you experience the everyday life of Uzbekistan with all your senses. In the afternoon visit the interesting Museum of Applied Arts before transferring to Tashkent Airport for your overnight flight to Seoul, South Korea.

Please note: In the event Asiana Airlines is unavailable, an alternative airline will be used and travellers may transit via a different country.

Meals included: Breakfast;In-Flight

Day 20 Seoul, South Korea - Australia

This morning arrive into Seoul, South Korea. Today you will have a long layover in Seoul throughout the day (up to 12 hours) and you are welcome to leave the airport to explore the city some more before returning back to the airport and departing for Australia later this evening.

Please note: In the event Asiana Airlines is unavailable, an alternative airline will be used and travellers may transit via a different country.

Meals included: In-Flight

Day 21 Arrive in Australia

Please note: some flights may arrive +1 days later.

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TOUR INCLUSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

Discover 4 countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

Explore the historic cities and villages of the Silk Road

See beautiful wooden Russian buildings on a city tour of Almaty

Visit picturesque Big Almaty Lake in Kazakhstan

Enjoy a free day at leisure in Almaty, the largest city in Kazakhstan

Witness dramatic rock formations in Charyn Canyon

Cook 'Lagman' a traditional Uighur dish with an Uighur family

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Karakol, a city backdropped by alpine peaks

See the red sandstone rock formations of Jetti-Oguz Gorge

Travel along the beautiful Issyk-Kul Lake

Go horse riding and make flat bread at a Kyrgyz yurt camp in Bokonbayevo

Visit Burana Tower, a 9th century minaret built by the Karakhanids

Explore Bishkek, 'the greenest city in Central Asia'

Visit Ala-Too Square, the main square of Bishkek

Experience a demonstration of traditional Kyrgyz instruments and techniques

Tour historic Osh, the oldest city in Kyrgyzstan

Discover the colourful Osh Bazaar and Historical Museum

Learn the cooking techniques of Central Asia's most famous meals with an Uzbek family

Visit the workshop of Zakir Aka, maker of handmade knives for almost 60 years

Marvel at the centuries-old Sheikh Muslihiddin Mausoleum in Khujand

Visit the city of Istaravshan, founded by Persian King Cyrus the Great in the 7th century

Travel along the picturesque Varzob Gorge in Tajikistan

Visit the Museum of Antiquities in Dushanbe, home to the UNESCO protected reclining Buddha

Take in the excavation site of old Penjikent and Rudaki Museum

Visit the fabled city of Samarkand, an icon of the Silk Road

Explore Registan, the heart of the ancient Samarkand

See Gur Emir, Ulug-Bek Madrasah and more

Visit Shakhrisabz, one of most ancient cities in Central Asia

See Poi Kalon and Kalon Minaret on a city tour of Bukhara

Witness a folklore show in Nadir Divan Begi Madrasah

Enjoy a discovery tour through Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan

Visit Khast-Imam Square, beautiful Barak Khan Madrasah and more

FLIGHTS

Return international flights (economy class) ex SYD/MEL/BNE

1 x internal flight in Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek to Osh

ACCOMMODATION

17 nights quality hotel accommodation

1 night in a traditional Kyrgyz Yurt

Day use in transit hotel in Seoul Airport

DINING

Enjoy 32 meals including 2 traditional dinners with local families

TOUR ESSENTIALS

English speaking tour leaders and guides

Airline taxes and surcharges

TRANSPORT

Transportation by private A/C vehicles

TRANSFERS

Return airport transfers

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*Please note: all information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.

BOOKING INFORMATION

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. The Passenger Information Form must be completed within 72 hours of purchase.

Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

On purchasing this Travel Offer you are bound by the General Terms and Conditions, in addition to the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

Please note: all additional charges are payable direct to your Travel Consultant in AUD (unless otherwise stated).

OFFER ESSENTIALS

Travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 10th October 2022.

This travel offer is priced for one person based on twin share.

Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers a mandatory single supplement of \$900 applies.

Departure Dates

Please see the TripADeal website for current departure dates.

Surcharges

*Please note: dates/months with a * or ^ incur a high season surcharge:*

* Flight High Season Surcharge: \$200 per person

^ Land High Season Surcharge: \$100 per person

Departure Cities

Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane

FLIGHTS

Full Service International Airline(s) Used

Asiana Airlines, Air Astana, Singapore Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, Thai Airways, Vietnam Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Qantas Airways, Emirates, Virgin Australia, Korean Airlines, Japan Airlines, Bangkok Airways, Uzbekistan Airways and codeshare partners (subject to availability)

Domestic Flights

- Bishkek to Osh: Air Manas, TEZ Jet or Avia Traffic

Please note: One way flights can not be accommodated. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.

Arrive early

Not available.

Stay behind in Seoul, South Korea

\$200 per person, subject to availability

Please note:

- Customers will forfeit the day use transit accommodation on day 20 if purchasing this stay behind option.

- This fee does not include extra nights accommodation, meals or airport transfers.

- No flight booking changes or cancellations permitted after air tickets have been issued.

- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

- Blackout dates apply between the below date ranges:

*1st - 25th April 2021

*20th June - 22nd July 2021

*17th September - 11th October 2021

Stopover Packages

Not available.

Flight Class Upgrades

- Premium Economy: Not available

- Business Class (International Sectors Only): Starting from \$4899 per person

Please note:

- *Starting from quotes will be processed and returned for your consideration.

- All Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are subject to availability (if we are not able to fulfill your business class request the upgrade cost will be refunded).

- On any upgrade purchase, short haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed in a Premium or Business cabin; subject to aircraft configuration.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation Used

3-4 Star Hotel (self-rated)

- Almaty, Kazakhstan: Plaza Hotel or similar

- Karakol, Kyrgyzstan: Green Yard Hotel or similar

- Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan: Plaza Hotel or similar

- Osh, Kyrgyzstan: Osh Nuru Hotel or similar

- Khujand, Tajikistan: Hotel Firuz or similar

- Dushanbe, Tajikistan: Hotel Atlas or similar

- Penjikent, Tajikistan: Hotel Sughd or similar



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- Samarkand, Uzbekistan: Hotel Majestik Palace or similar

- Bukhara, Uzbekistan: Hotel Malika Bukhara or similar

- Tashkent, Uzbekistan: Hotel City Palace or similar

No star rating

- Bokonbayevo: Almaluu Traditional Yurt Camp

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type, and are subject to availability based on seasonality. Properties will be confirmed, no later than two weeks prior to travel.

Extra Nights

Not available.

Maximum Room Capacity

2 people.

Child Policy

- No child discounts. Full price applies for all children travelling with their parents.

- Valid for Children/infants 12 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors allowed.

Triple Share

Not available.

Bedding Configuration

2 x Single or 1 x Double/Queen (subject to availability).

Adjoining / Interconnecting Rooms

Subject to availability and at the hotels discretion. Please enquire on booking if you require this option.

GENERAL TOUR INFORMATION

Minimum group size 10, maximum group size 20 per vehicle.

Optional Tours / Activities

- Day 4: Half Day Madeo Gorge & Kok-Tobe Tour - \$125 per person

Please note:

- Prices are based on per person, are subject to availability, time permitting and weather conditions.

- The optional tours listed above must be purchased on checkout or over the phone prior to submitting your passenger information form (subject to availability)

- Some tours require minimum numbers to operate.

EXCLUSIONS

- Visa fees and requirements (A tourist visa for Tajikistan is a strict requirement however visas are not required for Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and South Korea if travelling on an Australian passport)

- Meals/beverages not stated in the itinerary

- Recommended gratuities/tipping: \$5 USD per person per day (days 2 to 19).

- Optional activities/tours

- Personal expenses

- Travel insurance (Mandatory)

Please note: A comprehensive travel Insurance policy must be organised BEFORE all details can be finalised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

Tour Guide:

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction in which he or she is guiding the tour. The guide

meets the group at the required place and leaves the group at the end of the tour, they do not travel with the group.

Tour Leader:

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides in each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village, and offer information on the place visited on the bus, however they are not required to have specific knowledge on art, architecture, or history. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and if caught doing so, can be fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when particularly required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Almaty, Kazakhstan

Almaty is situated in a mountainous area which has an influence on the climate in this city. Almaty has a warm continental climate with more rainfall than in the rest of the country. Especially in spring and early summer months there is a lot more rain. Summers are pleasant and make it a perfect time to visit. The winters are soft and pleasant. most precipitation will be snow. During the months of May, June, July, August and September you are most likely to experience good weather with pleasant average temperatures. October will be slightly cooler.

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

The capital Bishkek is located in the north, in the valley of the river Chuy, at



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

an altitude ranging between 650 and 950m. Here the climate is continental, with cold winters and hot summers, in which the days can be scorching, often around 35-36°C, but with dry air and lively breezes in the afternoon. Precipitation is moderate, the annual total being around 450mm, with a summer minimum (when only rare showers occur to interrupt the sunny days), and a maximum in spring, between March and May.

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

In Dushanbe the climate is continental as well; winters are quite cold, though not freezing, with an average in January of 3°C, while summers are hot and sunny: highs in July and August are around 35°C, but with peaks of 40°C. In winter the temperature often drops below freezing at night, but it remains quite mild during the day; however, even here cold waves may occur, with lows around -10°C, though less intense than in the rest of the country, because the mountains in the north partly protect the city. It receives about 600mm of rain or snow per year, most of which between November and May, with a maximum in March and April, of about 110mm per month, distributed in about 10 days per month, and a summer minimum (even here, from July to September it virtually never rains).

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Tashkent features a Mediterranean climate with strong continental climate influences. As a result, Tashkent experiences cold and often snowy winters not typically associated with most Mediterranean climates and long, hot and dry summers. The city experiences two peaks of precipitation in the early winter and spring. The slightly unusual precipitation pattern is partially due to its 500m altitude. Summers are long in Tashkent, usually lasting from May to September. Tashkent can be extremely hot during the months

of July and August. The city also sees very little precipitation during the summer, particularly from June through September.

FLIGHTS

Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points:

At TripADeal we do not arrange seat selection. It is important to highlight that some Airlines do not allow pre-selected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the Airline directly with seating allocation requirements and or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the Airline once you have your flight information.

Passport Validity:

Customers are required to provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase, or no later than 45 days prior to departure date. Failure to do so may result in cancellation of the booking. In this instance customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred.

COACH TOUR

Meals:

32 meals are included in the tour, for all other meals; lunches and dinners the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify TripADeal of any dietary requests/requirements.

Please note: we will do our best to meet your requests/requirements, however cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

Luggage:

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on the tour.

With regards to luggage, you must carry your own luggage from the coach to the hotel room and back to the coach. The driver will assist with the uploading and off-loading of the luggage from the coach.

OTHER

Fitness Level Required / Mobility:

Our vehicles are not equipped with wheelchair access, so unfortunately our tours are currently not suitable for wheelchair users and those less mobile.

Please note: a general level of fitness will be required. If you have any concerns please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.

Yellow Fever:

A valid international certificate of vaccination against Yellow Fever is required in many countries. You may need to present this on arrival at the airport or border crossing. Some countries will refuse entry if you are unable to present your certificate. It's also quite common for your home country to request a Yellow Fever certificate on your arrival back home. It is your responsibility to check with your doctor well in advance of leaving home about the Yellow Fever requirements for the countries you'll be visiting.

Gratuities / Tipping:

Land (days 2 to 19)

- Gratuities (tips) are not included in the tour price for services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The recommended tip is \$5 USD per person per day this covers the guide/leader and the driver, which will be collected whilst on tour.

- Tipping for all services provided on tour is always a matter of personal discretion, however please be aware that tipping is considered by many locals to be a part of their normal remuneration and they may



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

approach you for payment and there is no need to be intimidated by the request.

Sightseeing:

Please note: In the event entrance to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary where possible, will be adjusted or an similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).

Shopping:

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all of your receipts.

Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader.

Please refer to our Terms and Conditions in regards to shopping for further information.

VISAS

Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan

Australian passport holders can travel to Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan for up to 60 days without a visa.

Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan has introduced a visa-free regime for a period of 30 days for citizens of Australia & New Zealand.

Tajikistan

An E-visa for \$50USD (subject to change) is required. The visa is valid for 45 days within a 90-day period from the entry date you fill in your application, and is valid for a single entry. You can apply as early as you like. You don't have to enter on the first day of entry, you can enter

at a later date as well. Similarly, you can leave before the 45 days are up, you do not have to stay until the last day. Find more info and apply via this link <https://www.evisa.tj/index.evisa.html>

South Korea

A tourist visa is not required for South Korea if travelling on an Australian Passport.

Please note: Passengers who are not Australian citizens must check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required. It is also important to note, some areas of employment such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations may have additional restrictions in applying for Visas. This may in turn affect the type of application required.

INSURANCE

We are proud to offer a range of travel insurance products - please ask your Travel Consultant for more information.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

Voluntary Changes

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

- Changes - \$100.00 per booking + any additional charges applied by the airline/accommodation/other travel provider.

Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

- If the incorrect name has been advised to TripADeal, charges of \$100 per booking + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.

Supplier Fees

In the event the Travel Offer you have purchased is unable to proceed,

and/or a travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the Travel Offer due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/accommodation partners. TripADeal has committed to these costs as your Agent and will endeavour to recover all funds committed and/or paid for your Travel Offer, but this may not be possible in all circumstances. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event, TripADeal is unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee. This fee is not revenue-raising and is paid to or withheld by our suppliers when recovering payments.

