

# THE SPLENDOURS OF TIMUR'S EMPIRE

\* SAMARKAND \* SHAKHRISABZ \* SAMARKAND \*

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

*You will get acquainted not only with magnificent architecture of Timur's Epoch, but also dip into the way of life of local people. Visiting one of the local Uzbek families will serve a living portrait of the Uzbek people and a significant addition to the whole tour.*



DAYS	CITIES	ITINERARY
01	Tashkent / Samarkand	<p>In the morning transfer to the railway station for express train to Samarkand:</p> <p><i>Express train "Registan" (TAS/SKD) at 07:00/10:30 operates on Mon, Thu-Sun or Express train "Sharq" (TAS/SKD) at 08:10/11:45 operates daily</i></p> <p>Arrival in <b>Majestic and beautiful Samarkand</b>, called by historians a "Rome of the East, The pearl of the Eastern Moslem World". Samarkand witnessed a lot of upheavals during the times of Alexander the Great (Macedonian), the Arabic Conquest, Ghengis-Khan Conquest and lastly Tamerlane's. Hence, Samarkand's culture developed and mixed together with the Iranian, Indian, Mongolian and a bit of the Western and Eastern cultures.</p> <p>SS tour of Samarkand upon arrival: <b>Afrosiab archaeological site &amp; museum of the city foundation; Observatory of Ulugbek</b> (the founder of the observatory; <b>Gur-Emir Mausoleum</b> (graves of Tamerlane and his descendants).</p> <p>Overnight at hotel in Samarkand.</p>
02	Samarkand	<p>FD SS tour of Samarkand: <b>Registan Square</b> (meaning "sandy place") surrounded by the <b>Ulugbek's madrassah</b>, the <b>Sher-Dor madrassah</b> and <b>Tilla-Kori madrassah</b>; <b>Mosque Bibi-Khanum</b> (named in honor of Timur's eldest and favorite wife); local bazaar; <b>Shakhi-Zinda Necropolis</b> and ensemble of mausoleums.</p> <p><i>Visiting Samarkand Handmade Silk Paper Center where the artisans have revived the ancient tradition of hand-made paper production and reintroduced Samarkand Paper to the world.</i></p> <p>Overnight at hotel in Samarkand.</p>

03	Samarkand / Shakhrisabz / Samarkand	In the morning drive to <b>Shakhrisabz</b> , a town located not far from Samarkand and surrounded by mountains from three sides – motherland of the Great ruler and military commander Timur, via Takhta-Karacha Mountain Pass by small A/C cars (90 km). Upon arrival SS tour of Shakhrisabz: <b>Remnants of Ak-Sarai Palace</b> , bazaar of Shakhrisabz, <b>Kok-Gumbas mosque &amp; Gumbazi-Seidan mausoleum, Khazret-Imam mosque</b> . In the afternoon return to Samarkand. Transfer to hotel. <i>Visiting local Uzbek house and meet with the family. It is a great opportunity to get to know more about local customs and traditions, as well as feel deeply the hospitality and originality of Uzbek people by the example of a particular family.</i> Overnight at hotel in Samarkand.
04	Samarkand / Tashkent	In the morning transfer to the railway station for express train to Tashkent: <i>Express train "Sharq" (SKD/TAS) at 11:00/14:45 operates daily</i> Upon arrival transfer to your hotel.

SUGGESTED HOTELS FOR ACCOMMODATION				
Option "Silk"	Samarkand	President 4*		3 o/n
Option "Cotton"	Samarkand	Orient Star 3* / similar		3 o/n
TARIFFS				
<b>Number of pax:</b>	2 pax	3 - 5 pax	6 – 9 pax	Single room supplement
Option "Silk" (price per person)	\$410	\$405	\$355	\$60
Option "Cotton" (price per person)	\$350	\$345	\$299	\$45
THE PRICE OF TOUR INCLUDES:		THE PRICE OF TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accommodation on double/twin base at above mentioned hotels;</li> <li>Meals: B &amp; B base: 3 breakfasts (from breakfast on day 2 till breakfast on day 4) + 1 dinner in Samarkand (on day 3);</li> <li>All transfers and transportation throughout by A/C car / minibus;</li> <li>Transportation by A/C cars (3 pax / car) for a day trip to Shakhrisabz via Takhta Karacha Mountain Pass;</li> <li>Porterage at railway stations and hotels;</li> <li>Services of LOCAL guides in each city for excursion (speaking English / French / German);</li> <li>All excursions and entrance fees (per itinerary);</li> <li><i>Samarkand Handmade Silk Paper Center;</i></li> <li><i>Dinner with the local family</i></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International airfare;</li> <li>Visa fee for Uzbekistan;</li> <li>Train ticket TAS/SKD or v.v. ("Registan") – 12 USD/pax (common compartment seat) or 18 USD/pax (1<sup>st</sup> class seat);</li> <li>Train ticket TAS/SKD or v.v. ("Sharq") – 18 USD/pax (1<sup>st</sup> class seat) or 28 USD/pax (2-berth luxe seat);</li> <li>All personal expenses (extra charge for video and photo at monuments and museums, luggage overweight)</li> </ul>		