



Kazakhstan | Kyrgyzstan | Uzbekistan

THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD TRAIN ADVENTURE *(Spring season)*

Follow the legendary Silk Road back in time, across three countries and UNESCO World Heritage sites.

FROM ALMATY TO TASKENT



14D/13N
The Legendary Silk Road
28 MAR - 10 APR 2024
starting from
RM37,810
per person
(Ali Baba category)

Other cabin categories available based on your own comfort



ALMATY TO TASHKENT

Day 01: Arrival in Almaty

You arrive in Almaty and transferred to your centrally located hotel. The rest of the day free to explore this city on own.

Overnight: Rahat Palace Hotel or similar

Day 02: Almaty – The Father of the Apple (B/L/D)

In the morning, you enjoy a sightseeing tour of this green metropolitan city at the foot of the mighty Ile Alatau Mountains. You see the imposing Zenkov Russian Orthodox Cathedral, built entirely of wood, the Wedding Palace, the Almaty Circus, and the Central Mosque. At midday you are served a Kazakh welcoming lunch in a traditional yurt. You depart aboard your private train in the afternoon. Porter service guarantees the transfer of your large luggage directly to your train compartment. You are welcomed aboard the train with a drink or refreshment and a short informative talk.

Overnight: On board



Day 03: Out in the Country: A Day at Lake Issyk-Kul (B/L/D)

As the morning sun find its way into your compartment, you see that you are arriving at the greater Lake Issyk-Kul area. You immediately realize that you are now in the midst of great natural beauty. Your first stop in this lush region is Cholpon-Ata, where you enjoy a boat ride on Lake Issyk-Kul, one of the largest lakes in the world. The breathtaking views of this enormous lake make you feel as if you're at sea. After your day by the lake, you are ready for the comfort of your private train. Once on board, you depart for Bishkek. A nightcap and good conversation prepare you for the next day's adventure.

Overnight: On board

Day 04: The City of Bishkek (B/L/D)

Today you find yourself in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan's capital and largest city. Like Almaty, it is situated at the foot of a mountain range, the Tian Shan. You now begin to realize that Central Asia will never let you down. There is so much to see here, that you already have the feeling that you'll be back again. Your guide takes you through the city, explaining everything clearly as you go. You visit the National Historical Museum then take a ride outside the city to the Ala Archa National Park. As the sun sets, you are ready to board your private train for Turkestan.

Overnight: On board

Day 05: Turkestan – Center of Nomad Pilgrimage (B/L/D)

You arrive in Turkestan after having breakfast on board. You visit the Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi, which was built in 1394 and is one of the most significant examples of Timurid architecture (UNESCO World Heritage Site). Afterwards your private train continues its journey, crossing the Kazakh-Uzbek border towards Samarqand. Border formalities are completed in the comfort of your compartment.

Overnight: On board

Day 06: Samarkand – Crossroads of Cultures (B/L/D)

Today is spent visiting the sights of this famous historic city, which during the rule of Timur was considered the world's most beautiful and prestigious city. The Necropolis of Shah-e Zinde (the living Shah), the excavation sites at Afrosiab (with a museum tour), and Registan Square are certainly among the most notable architectural ensembles in Central Asia. It is also historically important, as the site where many Uzbek women burned their veils (paranjas) in 1917, to signal their arrival in a new era.

Overnight: Registan Plaza Hotel or similar

Day 07: Samarqand (B/L/D)

Your day in this fascinating city includes a tour of a silk carpet manufactory, a visit to an Uzbek craftsman's family to see paper being made from mulberry bark, stops at the Ulug Beg Observatory and the ruins of the Bibi Khanum Mosque, and viewing the interior of the palace-like Gur Emir Mausoleum.

Overnight: Registan Plaza Hotel or similar

Day 08: Travelling through time (B/L/D)

After breakfast your train is on its way into the past. The Greek heritage has been preserved in this inaccessible mountainous region and cultural influences of the Bactrians and the Kushan Empire also survive here. Fire worship and shamanism are still practiced here in the form of rituals and myths seldom found elsewhere. Trade caravans once travelled through these narrow mountain gorges and the armies of Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan, and Timur (or Tamerlane) also passed by here. A traditional ceremony offers you first-hand insight into the region's unique folklore. Your journey then continues along the Great Silk Road aboard your train to the green city of Shakhrisabz, the birth place of Timur. Your sightseeing here includes the monumental architecture of the brutal Mongol ruler's great palace from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. In the evening you depart for Bukhara on your private train. On board you are invited to a tasting of Uzbek wines.

Overnight: On board

Day 09: Bukhara, the Noble One (B/L/D)

Located in the middle of the Kyzylkum Desert, Bukharahas some one thousand architectural monuments recalling the golden age of the Great Silk Route. Exotic spices, furs, and especially silk were stored and traded then in the city's caravanserais. In Bukhara's Old Town (UNESCO World Heritage), you see the almost fifty-metre tall Kalyan Minaret and the Lyab-I Hauz Ensemble by the pond. In a madrassa courtyard you watch a performance of local dances, and a presentation of colourful national costumes with musical accompaniment.

Overnight: Hotel Asia Bukhara or similar

Day 10: The Samanid Mausoleum (B/L/D)

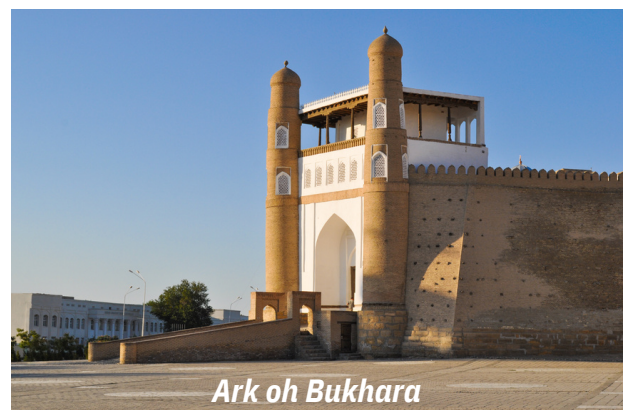
Bukhara, which also bears the by-name Sherif (the noble one), has preserved its ancient oriental countenance in its extensive, unparalleled collection of authentic architecture. In the morning, we drive you to the splendid Mir-e-Arab Madrassa and the Samanid Mausoleum, one of Central Asia's most beautiful architectural treasures. Afterwards you tour the massive Ark Citadel, a city within a city that was once the seat of government of Bukhara's former rulers. There you view the Throne Room, after which you visit the last emir's Summer Residence.

Overnight: Hotel Asia Bukhara or similar

Day 11: Bukhara (B/L/D)

The morning is yours to explore Bukhara or spend as you please. Your train departs for Khiva in the west around noon.

Overnight: On board



Day 12: Khiva (B/L/D)

Today you will visit the oasis of Khiva, a fairy tale from 1001 Nights – in stone. Standing at the mighty town wall with its gates and bastions of mud brick you feel transported into another world. On your sightseeing tour of the oasis you have a chance to take in its exotic atmosphere. Its palaces, mosques, minarets, mausoleums, and madrassas (Muslim religious schools) represent one of the best preserved ensembles of medieval oriental urban architecture in the world.

Overnight: On board

Day 13: Tashkent – The Green Oasis (B/L/D)

Your private train arrives in the early morning at the Uzbek capital of Tashkent. On your sightseeing tour of the city you are able to have a look at this green oasis in the steppe and see the Madrassa Kukeldash, the Kavoj and Amir Timur monuments, and the typical Kazakh mud brick houses. You end your day, and your journey, with a farewell dinner this evening.

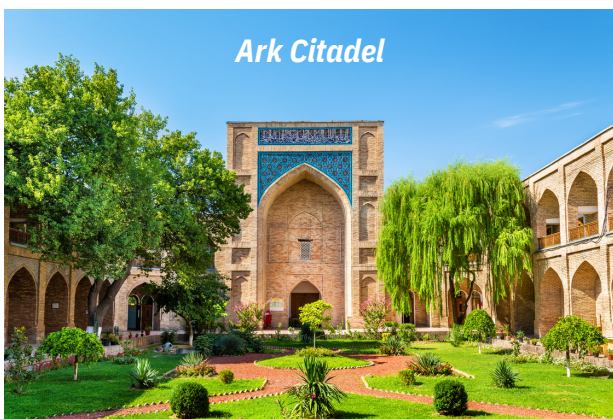
Overnight: Hotel Grand MIR or similar

Day 14: Taskent - Depart to home country (B)

Guest to book flight anytime between 10Apr or 11Apr 2024.

Hotel room extension being arranged. Depending on airline schedule as majority flight schedule are midnight/early morning on next day.

Airport transfer service will be arranged



DIFFERENT SLEEPING CABIN CATEGORIES (TRAIN)

HABIBI

(3 or 4 persons per cabin) **ECONOMY**

- Cabin size: approx. 2.2 sqm
- 2 lower & Upper beds: / 67 × 184 cm each

The Habibi compartment lower and upper berths on either side. Each car has nine compartments; combined toilet and washing facilities are located at both ends.

*Common washroom/toilet in the train shared among 9 cabins in 1 compartment . NO shower facilities on train.



ALI BABA

(2 persons per cabin) **COMFORT**

- Cabin size: approx. 2.2 sqm
- 2 lower beds: /67 × 184 cm each

The Ali Baba compartment features two comfortable lower beds. There is a table below the window and various options to stow belongings or luggage.

*Common washroom/toilet in the train shared among 9 cabins in 1 compartment . NO shower facilities on train



ALADDIN

(2 persons per cabin) **POPULAR**

- Cabin size: approx. 2.2 sqm
- 2 lower beds: 67 × 184 cm each

This category has a small table and storage space. Each car has eight compartments and a shared shower access on board of the train, together with washroom & toilet facilities at both ends . Guests in this category also receive one bathrobe per compartment.



KALIF

(2 persons per cabin) **EXTRA-COMFORT**

- Cabin size: approx. 6.32 sqm
- Upper bed: 80 × 174 cm / Lower bed: 110 × 184 cm

The Orient Silk Road Express' grandest accommodation. Each compartment includes a closet, safe and private bathroom with a separate shower cabin. Each car in this category is limited to four compartments and a maximum of just eight guests.



Note :-

- Our program combine few nights in hotel and few nights in the train.
- Book the package based on the train cabin category that you prefer
- Shower facilities on train is limited to Aladdin and Kalif categories.
- All guests will be able to use hotel shower & WIFI during the overnight in the hotel.

Highlights of Your Journey:-

- Traditional welcome ceremonies in Bukhara and Samarkand
- Traditional crafts such as silk carpet weaving
- Fascinating excavations at the ancient Afrosiyab archaeological site
- The 600 years old Ulugh Beg observatory The spectacular nature of the Karakum and Kyzylkum deserts and the Tian Shan Mountains
- Local vodka and Uzbek wine tasting sessions

Package includes: -

- 7 nights' on the private train according to the booked category
- 6 nights' hotel
- Expert Tour Director, Group Guide and English speaking local guides
- All excursions and sightseeing as per itinerary, including all entrance fees
- Meals stated as per itinerary.
- Local culinary specialities prepared freshly on board
- Porters at all stations
- Entertaining and enlightening lectures on history and culture of the region
- Doctor on board
- Return airport transfer

Package Excludes & to be quoted seperately: -

- International air ticket
- Visa fees for non-Malaysian (No visa required for Malaysia passport holder)
- Gratuity (Recommended U\$200 per person)
- Travel Insurance
- Personal expenses
- Other items not mentioned

Important Notes:-

- We regret that due to the intricate logistics of this tour, itinerary changes are sometimes unavoidable
- This journey is generally not for guests with limited mobility or who depend on CPAP machines. Please contact us for more information about your specific requirements before booking