



UZBEKISTAN

Boutique Textile & Ceramics Tour - 18 days

Including Bazaars, Carpets, Cuisine, Culture, embroidery & Silks

13th - 30th September 2010

The Great Silk Road is an amazing creation of mankind, a transcontinental route that connected the ancient civilizations of West and East and served not only for mutually beneficial trade, but for a religious, cultural, scientific and technical achievement exchange.

It was in the middle of the second century B.C. that the Silk Road began to function as a regular diplomatic and commercial artery. The widespread network of caravan-ways crossed Europe and Asia from the Mediterranean coast to China. Caravans laden with silk from China, spices and precious stones from India, silver goods from Iran, Byzantine cloths, Turkic slaves, ceramics and many other goods. In the 13th century, a young Venetian named Marco Polo set out on a great adventure following a series of silk routes. So come join us on our great adventure along some of the great 'Silk Road'..

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Shop and explore the local artisan centres in Tashkent
 - Be overwhelmed when you visit Tashkent's Fine Art Museum
 - Explore the amazing Chorsu bazaar
 - Experience Yodgorlik silk weaving factory
 - Enjoy time-out at Margilan's Thursday Bazaar
 - Visit House of master potter in Rishton
 - Wood-Carving Centre, House of a Master in Kokand
 - Visit the fascinating Skull-Cap Makers, in Kokand
 - Visit historical monuments Museum of Savitskiy in Khiva
 - Marvel at carpet workshops using traditional methods in Samarkand and Khiva
 - Buy the best local Suzanne's (hand embroidery) on sale in Bukhara and the local market at Urgut
 - Experience 'Suzanne making' in Samarkand
 - Discover and shop at the Sunday Market at Urgut with its famous textile, jewellery and garments etc
 - Discover traditional golden embroidery and silk fabric making in Bukhara
 - Visit Sadbarg Centre, a sewing workshop
 - Be impressed by the old Bukhara textiles
 - Be in awe of Registan and its Madrasas
 - Enjoy wonderful cuisine and regional delicacies
- And much, much more

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Internal Economy Class Flights- Tashkent / Fergana - Tashkent / Khiva
- Exclusive and private airport arrival and departure transfers for all guests
- 5 & 4 star hotel accommodation
- As indicated in Itinerary; B = B'fast:
L = Lunch: D = Dinner:
- Australian Tour Director
- Private services of a bilingual tour guide
- Deluxe private air-conditioned vehicles for all our transportation
- Admission fees to all Sightseeing & Shows
- Welcome Cocktails
- All portorage, tipping and gratuities
- An exclusive BT&T information travel package
- Bottled water

Price:

AU\$3125.00 Per person Twin Share:

10% discount for Embroiderers

AU\$2800.00 Per person Twin Share

Valid till 26th July 2010

Boutique Tours & Travel offers comprehensive travel packages with just about everything on land included in one price; Accommodation, most meals, transfers, baggage handling, all major sightseeing and numerous cultural events are also included. Before you travel, you may have questions about what to expect while on your tour. For further information about this tour, or assistance in booking this tour please don't hesitate to contact me at:

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Boutique Tours & Travel

share our passion in the journey....

TINERARY:

DAY 1: Monday 13th September 2010: Arrive: Tashkent:

Welcome to Uzbekistan! You will be met by your tour director and transferred to your hotel. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to explore. Tashkent is a delightful city.

DAY 2: Tuesday 14th September 2010: Tashkent:

Exploring this vast city and visit many varied and historic exhibits in the city, including the State Art Museum. The Museums of Applied Arts & superb Uzbek workshop and gallery of a local master potter and one of the country's finest ceramic artists. (B/L/SD)

DAY 3: Wednesday 15th September 2010:

Tashkent - Fergana:

This morning we fly to Fergana and tour the city. (B/L/SD)

DAY 4: Thursday 16th September 2010: Fergana:

Drive to Margilan, visit the amazing silk factory, 'Yodgorlik', where we are introduced to the techniques of producing fine quality silk and Ikat designs. We visit a workshop, famous for supplying Rasulgons fabrics to Oscar de La Renta. (B/L/D)

DAY 5: Friday 17th September 2010: Fergana:

Drive to Namangan & visit a private silk weaving workshop. Then to Chust – the most famous area of knife makers in Uzbekistan. (B/L/D)

DAY 6: Saturday 18th September:

Fergana-Rishton-Kokand-Tashkent:

Return to Tashkent via Rishton & Kokand. Rishton is famous for its ceramics. In Kokand we visit a private pottery factory. Kokand has a wonderful history as a stop-over on the Silk Road. (B/L/D)

DAY 7: Sunday 19th September 2010: Tashkent - Khiva:

This morning we fly to Urgench & transfer to Khiva. We visit a Textile Silk workshop. (B/L/D)

Day 8: Monday 20th September 2010: Khiva:

A full day of sightseeing tour in Khiva. Visit to historical monuments and famous museum of Savitskiy. (B/L/D)

DAY 9: Tuesday 21st September 2010: Khiva - Bukhara:

This morning we will drive to Bukhara via Kizilkum. We'll make a short stop at the sight of Amudarya. Upon arrival in Bukhara late this afternoon; free time at leisure. (B/L/D)

DAY 10: Wednesday 22nd September 2010: Bukhara:

We explore Bukhara, including the famous Uzbek fabrics with their wonderful colours and see variety of methods of embroidery including a golden-embroidery workshop. (B/L/D)

DAY 11: Thursday 23rd September 2010:

Bukhara-Gijduvan-Bukhara:

Enjoy a full day exploring the Gijduvan private pottery work shop. We will also see a rich collection of local embroidery of Suzanne. (B/L/D)

DAY 12: Friday 24th September 2010:

Bukhara:

This morning we discover the history of Bukhara including Chor-Bakries. Free afternoon at leisure. (B/L/SD)

DAY 13: Saturday 25th September:

Bukhara-Shakhrisabz-Samarkand:

Drive to Samarkand via Shakhrisabz, the birthplace of Tamerlane. Shakhrisabz is also famous for beautiful Suzanne embroidery. (B/L/D)

DAY 14: Sunday 26th September 2010:

Samarkand - Urgut- Samarkand:

We are off to the Sunday Market at Urgut. Urgut Market claims to be the oldest markets in Uzbekistan. (B/L/D)

DAY 15: Monday 27th September 2010:

Samarkand:

Perhaps the most well-known of Silk Road towns, conquered by Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan and Tamerlane. We visit the local bazaar with ceramics and textiles and a Carpet Factory. (B/L/D)

DAY 16: Tuesday 28th September 2010:

Samarkand - Tashkent:

We visit a Metal chaser workshop. We also visit a woodcarving workshop for which Samarkand is also famous for. We continue our drive to Tashkent. (B/L/D)

DAY 17: Wednesday 29th September 2010:

Tashkent:

This morning we explore more of Tashkent. Free afternoon before our Farewell Dinner. (B/L/SD)

DAY 18: Thursday 30th September 2010:

Tashkent:

Our small group tour concludes after breakfast. At your leisure before transferring to the airport. (B)

Triple-share Accommodation:

Price available on request.

Insurance:

Price available on request.

International Airfares:

Bookings & Price available on request.

International Flights: are excluded to allow you the option to use your air miles or to choose the airline and class of your choice.

Visa:

A visa is required.

BT&T is able to organise this for you.

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