

THE SILK ROAD *and the best of the* GOLDEN STANS



TRAVEL CLUB
travel without judgement

24 DAYS | 23 NIGHTS
8 SEPTEMBER - 1 OCTOBER 2027



THE SILK ROAD - AND THE BEST OF THE GOLDEN STANS

This is an extra special and extended journey through 'The Stans' with a 24-day epic itinerary – starting on the 8th of September 2027. If you are interested in the exploration of these incredible Places, their People and their fascinating Tales come and join G&T as we follow in the footsteps of Genghis Khan and **EXPERIENCE** the following:



We will connect with the **local nomadic families** as we are invited into their homes to learn all about their **Culture**, nomadic **Lifestyle**, and local ancient **Traditions**. We will learn as we participate in the creation of some of their **favourite local recipes** and get to enjoy the fruits of our labour.



We will delight in the unique **Architecture**, where the **turquoise** colour and **intricate design** of a bygone era still stands proud today.



We will listen and be captivated by the many **tales** that illustrate the **depth of knowledge** shared between the peoples. Their connections continue to shine through today from their various religions and beliefs.



We will witness the **tapestry of arts and crafts** of the trading nations by following the old **Caravan Trade Routes** where they traded their wares of silk, carpets, fabric and paper.



We will be inspired by the hard-working traditional **yurt makers**.



We will be amazed to see the skilful **Eagle Hunters** and the **Kyrgyz Horsemen**.



We will wander around in the colourful **bazaars** and **local markets** where the stalls are vibrant and buzzing.



We will admire the many **spectacular landscapes** including the picturesque rugged snowcapped **mountains**, large alpine freshwater **lakes**, the endless vistas that display the full spectrum within the **canyons** and **gorges** amongst lush green **valleys**.



We will take the time as the sun sets to enjoy some **evening strolls** amongst the ancient fortresses in search of the best **rooftop restaurants** to gain a bird's eye view of the street scenes below.



We will enjoy some **free time** to wander and explore independently.



We will **tantalize our tastebuds** as we search out the best restaurants locally and dine out rather than include too many hotel dinners which can be very repetitive.

Gools and Thommo have designed this trip (like all others) to include all the things that 'Our Clubbers' have come to expect. A unique and interesting itinerary including local contact with the people, fun hands-on activities and many multiple night stops with some excellent 'experience' accommodation.

Some of our accommodation this time, will allow us to delve into the local lives of the local families. To achieve this, we leave the cities behind as we venture into the countryside. We have included some small guest houses (the best available in the region) and even 2 nights in a traditional yurt (a nomad style tent) along with some comfortable boutique style and luxury style hotels. All up, our accommodation is all about style and location, location, location!! This then means on any given day you can explore independently if you wish with the free time given.

Central Asia is a truly unique and unforgettable experience that encompasses so many UNESCO World Heritage sites. It is easy to see why it appears to be on everyone's bucket list. Come with us as we criss-cross the famous and ancient Silk Road Trade Route of KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, UZBEKISTAN, and TAJIKISTAN.

The above 4 countries have such diverse and spectacular scenery which will have you with eyes wide open and not knowing where to look. The breathtaking backdrop of beautiful mountains surrounding deep green valleys, the carved rock formations within the ancient red gorges, and the crisp blue sky will leave you with everlasting memories for years to come. Your friends will be super jealous!!

There have been many historical expeditions through this region over the years. Those expeditions have covered many miles between Western China and what is now known as Central Asia. We will learn and appreciate all that this region has to offer through the unique connections between the different peoples who have travelled and traded here for centuries. The differing culture and history will be evident in the amazing architecture, some of which include the well-known and well photographed domes, minarets, and of course the decorative turquoise tiles. The differences will be evident in the warm hospitable people of the region who are super keen to share their homes and their stories along with sharing the secrets of their authentic delicious recipes. They are also happy to showcase their hardy nomadic lifestyles and traditions with us.

This destination, due to the ancient trade routes and the developing economies has it all. The busy colourful markets and the age-old arts and crafts of the different peoples are an absolute new experience and a photographer's dream.



NB: We have after much research decided to leave out the 5th Stan 'Turkmenistan' for several reasons.

Firstly, visas can be problematic, and many other companies seem to add it in just because it is the 5th Stan, and it sounds good to say the 5 Stans!! However, when you look at what value add it has as a stand-alone destination the outcome is minimal in our humble opinion. There is not enough difference in what the 4 other Stans are famous for and therefore in our opinion there is a reasonable amount of double up in both the sights and experiences.

Secondly, G&T Travel Club are choosing to spend more time in each place with **more 2-night stops** and even **one 3-night stop** as we believe this is more important than just ticking off an extra Stan! Other companies have way too many 1-night stops and too many long driving days in between. We have spaced out the necessary 1-night stops dependent on what there is to see and do and to maximise our time doing the fun and exciting stuff.

Thirdly, we know what our Clubbers now come to expect, and a **slower pace** and a **more in-depth adventure** is what we are aiming for. To achieve this, we have also added in two internal flights and an exciting fast train sector. This way we can minimise the long driving days.

Gools and Thommo have taken all of this into consideration and with the help of our Central Asia contact we have designed a fantastic and very different itinerary - one not to miss!!! So come along with G&T (Gools and Thommo) on our third 'THE SILK ROAD and the BEST of the GOLDEN STANS' adventure. This will be a single departure with strictly limited places for 2027.



HOW WE DIFFER

The following are some of the considerations we made, while developing this Central Asia programme.



1. **G&T** always develop an **exciting itinerary** with natural flow to maximise our time and experience. We choose our tour dates with regard for the best possible **weather** across the 4 different countries. With consideration of the size of the region it is important to take advantage of **2 internal flights and a high-speed train** to minimise too many 1 night stops.
2. In typical '**G&T**' style we have chosen some **fantastic accomodation** that enhances our experience in this part of the world. We have chosen some luxury hotels, some boutique hotels, and some regional guesthouses (best available in the area) which allows us to meet the local people. The **location, style and proximity** to the action will be very evident. It is important to us that when we have free time you can easily wander the local area.
3. **Food** is an important part of why we travel so we always like to include some **traditional meals** in the itinerary. We have decided not to include too many evening meals in the city hotels as they can be quite repetitive. However we have included all meals when we stay in our regional guesthouses because that becomes **part of the experience**. Dining out also gives us the opportunity to **see the city by night**.
4. **G&T always host every Club Tour**. This gives you something no one else can match. We will be with you the entire time, assisting with your needs and looking after you personally. On top of that we will always employ our own National Tour Guides along with localised city guides to better understand the local areas.
5. **G&T** most importantly make sure that the product is '**Great Value**'. Not necessarily the cheapest but well worth the few extra dollars to ensure an amazing experience!
6. **G&T** always design a tour program with the Clubbers in mind. The concept of the Club remains the same and that is, our Club is **invite only and not open to the general public**. Clubbers are always encouraged to bring along their immediate family and or friends as we feel that they too will be a good fit for the **G&T Travel Club**.

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Day 1 ARRIVE ALMATY

Almaty Arrival transfer - Airport to Hotel

WELCOME TO KAZAKHSTAN.

Kazakhstan is the world's ninth-biggest country and the most economically advanced of all 'The Stans'. The biggest city, Almaty **'the apple city'** (the humble fruit originated here) is almost reminiscent of Europe with its leafy and sophisticated avenues full of fantastic restaurants and cafes. It is a vibrant city nestled at the foothills of the majestic **Tien Shan Mountains** and known for its rich history, stunning landscapes and the gateway to the spectacular Charyn Canyon.

NB: Most guests from our 2025 and 2026 program either appreciated booking 1-night pre tour accommodation or suggested that they should have booked 1-night pre tour.

ACCOMMODATION – 2 nights

Dostyk Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - None



Day 2 CITY SIGHTSEEING IN ALMATY

SIGHTSEEING: Almaty

Today is a walking tour to discover Almaty. We will visit sites like the Independence Monument in Republic Square, Museum of National Musical Instruments, Zenkov Cathedral (Kazakhstan's nearest (albeit distant) relative to St Basil's Cathedral in Moscow), Green Bazaar, Panfilov Park and some of the charming boulevard streets where we can find a spot for lunch. Excursion – Visit Birds of Prey Nursery and Show.

Dostyk Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast



Day 3 ALMATY TO KARKARA VIA CHARYN CANYON

SIGHTSEEING: Charyn Canyon National Park 'the little brother to the Grand Canyon' and **UNESCO World Heritage** listed.

As we leave the city behind, we head to the breathtaking Charyn Canyon which is approximately 150 km long, and in places up to 300 metres deep. The beautiful natural formations often appear that they could be man-made. They have been sculpted by the wind, water and sun over millions of years, **Nature at its best!** We will discover the canyon on foot with a very accessible stairway down to the Canyon of around 200 metres. The remaining distance to the river side will be done by walking then we will take a shuttle back. Today we will have a picnic lunch. After exploring Charyn Canyon we continue by road to Kegan (the Kazakhstan/ Kyrgyzstan border).

After completing immigration formalities for both nations and entering Kyrgyzstan, we will transfer to our Karkyra Yurt Camp. Tonight, we get to experience life as a nomad as we sleep comfortably in a traditional Yurt. This will be a **fun and amazing experience** for us all to share.

NB: You may wish to pack down to a small bag for our 1-night yurt experience.

WELCOME TO KYRGYZSTAN.

Kyrgyzstan is a nation defined by its natural beauty. Joyously unspoilt mountain scapes, stark craggy ridges and rolling summer pastures are brought to life by the seminomadic, **yurt-dwelling shepherds**.

ACCOMMODATION – 1 night

Karkyra Glamping Yurt Camp (or similar) –

Yurt accommodation is setup for 2 people per yurt, and there is a small chance that solo travellers may have to share for this 1 night. (same sex only)

MEALS - Breakfast / Picnic Lunch / Dinner

Day 4 KARKARA TO KARAKOL VIA TEPKE HORSE FARM

SIGHTSEEING: Reina Kench Eco Farm

At Reina-Kench Farm, located in the village Tepke, you will enjoy a ranch tour and presentation at the farm. The **famous Kyrgyz horses** are bred here at the ranch along with cattle, sheep, goats and chickens.

After we have enjoyed a delicious organic lunch and our farm experience, we make our way to our accommodation for a 2-night stop.

ACCOMMODATION – 2 nights

[Hotel Oimo \(or similar\)](#)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch



Day 5 KARAKOL

SIGHTSEEING: Karakol

Today we will discover the area and visit the old Chinese Mosque, which was constructed in 1907 and interestingly in the style of a Chinese temple. The local Dungan people built it in this Kyrgyz traditional style using wood feathering instead of metal nail construction. Karakol is also famous for the striking Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral, completed in 1895. We will visit the little local regional museum and have time to get some lunch in the local busy bazaar.

Time permitting and if it fits with their opening hours we hope to visit The One Village One Project Association where local women produce traditional crafts and foods.

This evening, we get to connect with the locals as we visit a local Dungan family home restaurant and **experience a home-cooked dinner by the family**. We will learn the fascinating story of why this Muslim Chinese group immigrated to the region 140 years ago, how they made the area their home, and how families today keep their **traditional culture and cuisine** alive.

[Hotel Oimo \(or similar\)](#)

MEALS - Breakfast / Dinner

Day 6 KARAKOL TO DJETI OGUZ TO ISSYK-KUL LAKE/TOSOR

SIGHTSEEING: Jeti Oguz Canyon and Skazka (Fairy Tale) Canyon

This morning, we head to Jeti Oguz Canyon, which means 'Seven Bulls'. This picturesque gorge has 7 red rock formations that are covered with forests of Tien Shan Spruces. The surrounding scenery is rather special, and we will have the opportunity to walk up to view the main gorge enjoying the views along the winding Jeti Oguz mountain river.

Later we will enjoy a delicious lunch in another local family's home. We can participate this time and **assist in the making of Kyrgyz fried bread** – known as Boorsok. Yum!

After lunch we will visit and walk into Skazka (Fairy Tale) Canyon where we will have **views of the Issyk-Kul Lake**. This freshwater lake is surrounded by some beautiful and colourful sand formations. A real visual treat for Instagram or photographers.

NB: You'll need your best walking footwear today as the surface can be slippery.

Close to the canyon we will meet up with a 'Berkutchi' – a local **Golden Eagle Hunter**. We can look on and watch the intriguing process of hunting. Luckily, in Kyrgyzstan, there are still some expert hunters keeping this nomadic tradition alive. After this we head to our Yurt Camp and rest up before a traditional dinner overlooking the lake.

ACCOMMODATION – 1 night

Royal Gate Yurt Camp (or similar) - Yurt accommodation is setup for 2 people per yurt, and there is a small chance that solo travellers may have to share for this 1 night. (same sex only)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner



Day 7 ISSYK-KUL LAKE TO CHONG KEMIN

SIGHTSEEING: Chong Kemin National Park

After breakfast we will make a stop in Kyzyl-Tuu Village and visit the location of traditional yurt production. Over 50% of the villagers are engaged in the yurt making process. Here, we will **visit the local family and their open-air workshop**. We can watch the process, and the detail required to make the yurt. Also, participate in the process of yurt installation, learning more about the culture of the nomads.

This afternoon we arrive at Chong Kemin National Park. Chong Kemin is in a valley, and therefore you can easily take a stroll around the guesthouse. This afternoon you can appreciate and **breathe in that fresh mountain air!**

ACCOMMODATION – 1 night

Guesthouse Kemin (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner



Day 8 BISHKEK VIA BURANA TOWER

SIGHTSEEING: Burana Tower **UNESCO World Heritage** listed and Architectural Complex and Bishkek City tour.

Today we will visit the well photographed Burana Tower. Built in the 11th century, it is one of the only existing watchtowers on the Old Silk Road. We will see the petroglyphs and a great collection of Balbals.

On arrival into Bishkek, we will set off for an afternoon of sightseeing to get our bearings. Along the way we will witness the national history while visiting the Central Square of Ala-Too (originally known as Lenin Square), we will wander through the open-air art gallery of Oak Park, and finish at the National History Museum – for those who wish to linger longer it is a short walk back to our hotel.

ACCOMMODATION – 1 night

Hotel Novotel Bishkek City Centre (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch



Day 9 BISHKEK AND FLIGHT TO TASHKENT

SIGHTSEEING: Today after breakfast we will head to the Osh Bazaar and further explore Bishkek. We will have a late lunch today in a local restaurant before transferring to the airport.

- Bishkek Departure transfer – Hotel to Airport
- Uzbek Airways flight 778 19:05/19:25
- Tashkent Arrival transfer – Airport to Hotel

WELCOME TO UZBEKISTAN.

Uzbekistan is known as Asia's 'cradle of culture' and proves to be Central Asia's most impressive with the trio of Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva never failing to impress.

ACCOMMODATION – 2 nights

Crowne Plaza (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch



Day 10 TASHKENT

SIGHTSEEING: Tashkent

Today we dissect the city and discover part of the **fascinating** network of **Metro stations**. Tashkent is renowned for its beautiful metro design. We will also visit the oldest market in Tashkent (Chorsu Bazaar). Our sightseeing will showcase the many different architectural designs including the 1940's Alisher Navoi Theatre and the Khast Imama Square.

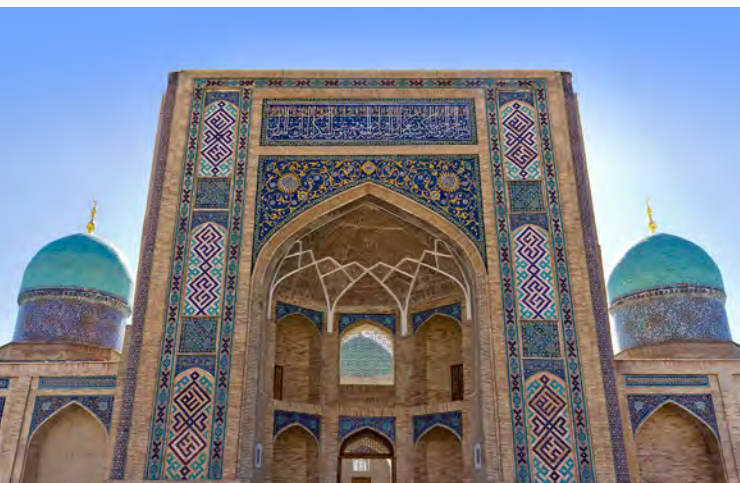
OPTIONAL: A visit to the Rakhimov Family Ceramics Studio.

Then this evening, we will venture out and find a **great spot for dinner and drinks**.

ACCOMMODATION – 1 night

Crowne Plaza (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast



Day 11 TASHKENT TO KHUJAND

Today we travel by road through **vast countryside** as we make our way from Tashkent to Khujand. We will take in the big views as we head to the Uzbekistan/Tajikistan border.

After completing immigration formalities for both nations and entering Tajikistan, we continue with our program to discover Khujand.

WELCOME TO TAJIKISTAN.

A predominantly mountainous country where over 90% of the land is upland. Often referred to as **'The Roof of the world'**.

SIGHTSEEING: Khujand City tour. We start the day with a visit to the exciting **Panjshanbe Bazaar**, then after lunch we will discover Khujand city on a sightseeing tour ending at the Sughd Museum. We will explore the outside of the complex as it has an **amazing detailed architectural style**. For those interested you may choose to extend the excursion and go inside the Museum. For those not interested, you can take a transfer back to hotel and **enjoy free time or relax**.

A 2nd Transfer to the hotel after the museum visit is also available. Both choices will be offered on the day.

ACCOMMODATION – 1 night

Anis Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch

Day 12 KHUJAND TO DUSHANBE

SIGHTSEEING: Istaravshan

Today we will also visit Istaravshan, one of the oldest cities in Tajikistan, including Mugtepa Fortress, Kok Gumbaz Mosque as we make our way to Dushanbe. Dushanbe, the capital city of Tajikistan, is heavily **influenced by Persian culture** and this is evident in its architecture, traditions, and language. It is a vibrant and culturally rich destination nestled at the foothills of the **majestic Pamir Mountains**. With a history that spans over two millennia, Dushanbe is a melting pot with diverse influences, blending the ancient traditions of Central Asia.

Dushanbe with its modern grand boulevards is surrounded by a rural hinterland of grassy pastures and snow-capped mountains, all visible from downtown. Dushanbe is a delightful city built around its parks, lakes and fountains. It's hard to believe that less than 100 years ago there was little here other than a small village named after its weekly popular market. Dushanbe means 'Monday' marketplace. As you explore this **enchanted city**, you will uncover a myriad of fascinating facts that make Dushanbe truly unique.

ACCOMMODATION – 2 nights

[Hotel Rumi \(or similar\)](#)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch



Day 13 DUSHANBE

SIGHTSEEING: Dushanbe city tour

Today we will witness the modern side of this very liveable city.

Excursion – The Hisor Fortress is one of the **best-preserved historical sites** in Tajikistan. Strategically located on a hilltop, the fortress was built around 2500 years ago. Legend has it that even **Alexander the Great** had captured the fortress at some point in time.

[Hotel Rumi \(or similar\)](#)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch



Day 14 DUSHANBE TO PANJAKENT VIA ISKANDERKUL LAKE

SIGHTSEEING: Iskanderkul Lake

Iskanderkul Lake takes its name from Alexander the Great's passage in Tajikistan and is known as one of the most beautiful in the region. Iskander is the Persian pronunciation of Alexander, and kul means lake. Iskanderkul is a **mountain lake of glacial origin** and lies at an altitude of 2,195 metres on the northern slopes of the Gissar Range in the **spectacular Fann Mountains**. The canyon scenery is particularly dramatic as you approach the lake. Today we will **enjoy our relaxing lunch by the lake**.

Tonight, dinner will be at a local restaurant where we can experience the Tajik cuisine.

ACCOMMODATION - 2 nights

Hotel Panjakent Plaza (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner



Day 15 PANJAKENT

SIGHTSEEING: Seven Lakes

Today we drive to the 'Seven Lakes' where we will explore 6 of the series of 7 incredible lakes. They are also known as the **Seven Diamonds of the Fann Mountains** as they interconnect and are constantly changing colour, a truly magical sight to see.

We will enjoy lunch beside one of the lakes then when we return to town you can take a stroll around the local area before returning to our hotel.

Panjakent Plaza Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Lunch



Day 16 PANJAKENT TO SAMARKAND

SIGHTSEEING: Panjakent

This morning, we will depart by road to JarTEpa, where we cross the Tajikistan/Uzbekistan border. This border can be busy so we will head off straight after breakfast. After completing immigration formalities for both nations and entering Uzbekistan, we will transfer to Samarkand.

WELCOME BACK TO UZBEKISTAN.

SIGHTSEEING: Samarkand **UNESCO World Heritage** listed Registan Square is the centrepiece of the city with its **azure and majestic mosaics**. Often it is said to be the most awesome single sight in Central Asia.

Samarkand lays in central Uzbekistan and is one of the oldest and important historic cities. This **key Silk Road** city sits at the crossroads of China, India and Persia and has been ruled by Turks, Arabs, Persians, and Mongolians.

ACCOMMODATION – 2 nights

Movenpick Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Dinner



Day 17 SAMARKAND

After breakfast we will spend the day exploring the city.

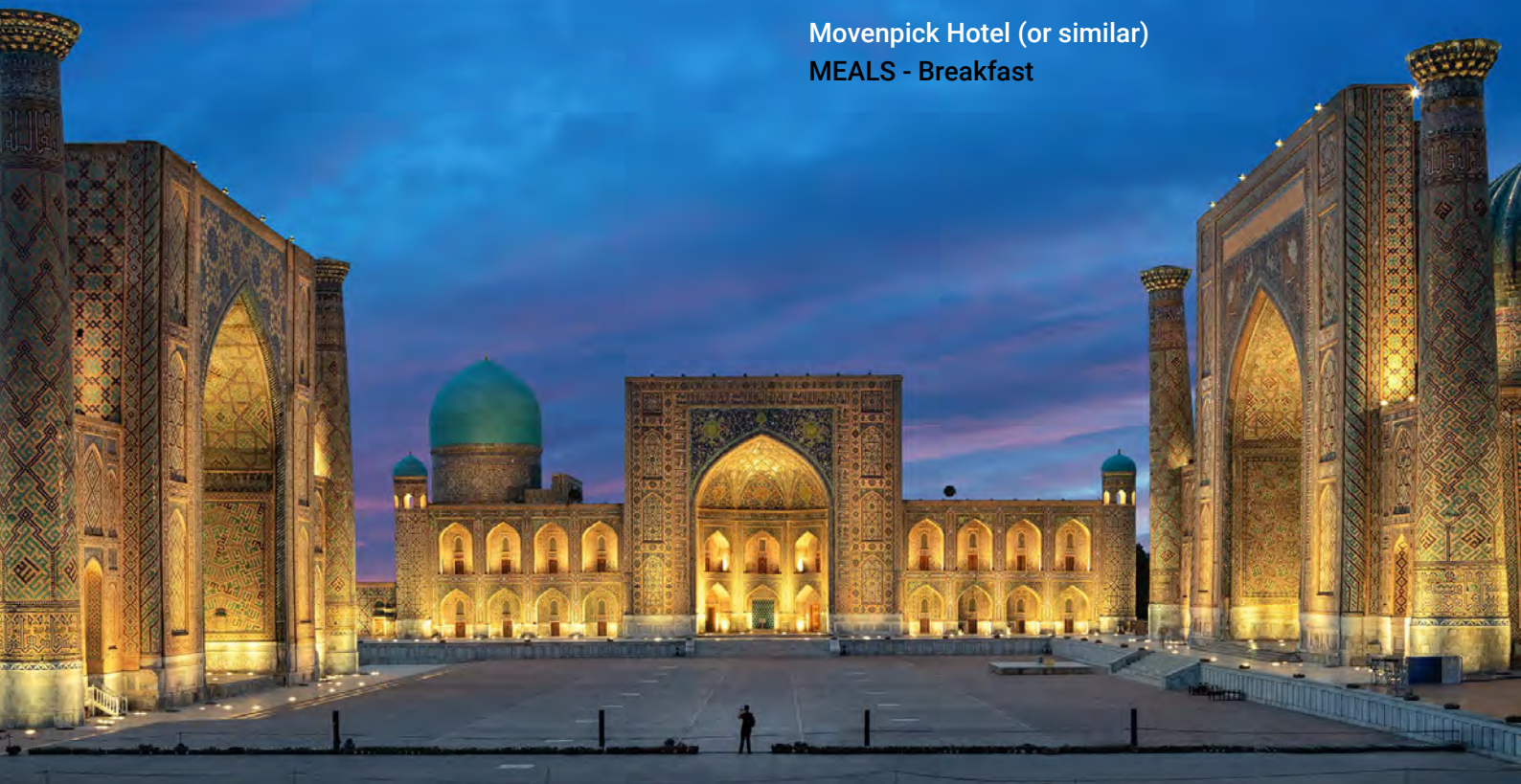
SIGHTSEEING: Today will feature the awe-inspiring Registan Square along with Gur Emir, Bibi-Khanum, and the very busy, very local Siab Bazaar as a start.

Remainder of day at leisure.

This evening, we can walk back to the Registan Square Viewpoint (a short distance from our hotel) to see the **incredible night-time display**. Have your cameras handy!

Movenpick Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast



Day 18 SAMARKAND TO BUKHARA

After breakfast we transfer from the Hotel to the Train Station where we board one of the nation's **modern high-speed trains**.

- Travel by train to Bukhara 10:46am/12:29pm
- Bukhara Arrival transfer – Station to sightseeing, then to the Hotel

The historic centre of Bukhara has also been listed as a **UNESCO World Heritage** site. Bukhara has been a hub for traders and travellers since its foundation over 2,000 years ago and is Central Asia's holiest cities. Situated on an oasis in the Zerafshan river delta in central Uzbekistan, Bukhara lies on a crossroads of **ancient trade routes** on the edge of the Kyzyl Kum (Red Sand) and Kara Kum (Black Sand) deserts.

The well-preserved architecture of Bukhara is a great blend of **fortresses, minarets, and madrassas**. The town has contributed to many locally produced goods that enriched The Silk Road trade and was particularly **renowned for its textile industry**. Karakul lambs' fleeces, silk, cotton, leather, carpets and clothing were all traded from Bukhara, as well as gold embroidery and metal work, and many of these crafts are still practised in the city today.

SIGHTSEEING: The Old Town which combines a central reflection pool and plaza alongside the unique structure of the domed bazaar make for an excellent walking city to explore. You can enjoy Labi-Hauz Plaza, Kalon Mosque and Minaret and the many shops in the domed bazaar.

The best kept secret is to wander the little backstreets of Bukhara late in the day in readiness for the **spectacular sunset**.

ACCOMMODATION – 2 nights

[Wyndham Bukhara \(or similar\)](#)

MEALS - Breakfast



Day 19 BUKHARA

SIGHTSEEING: Bukhara city tour continues with some free time to explore independently. This evening we will witness the local tradition of Plov making.

Plov is a dish in Central Asia that features prominently in their national cuisine. It is most celebrated in Uzbekistan, and the Uzbek Plov is based on rice, meat, carrots, onions, and cumin, however the variations and additions are near boundless, and they vary from town to town and family to family. We will enjoy our Plov tonight on a family operated establishment and learn firsthand how this dish is made.

[Wyndham Bukhara \(or similar\)](#)

MEALS - Breakfast / Dinner



Day 20 BUKHARA TO KHIVA

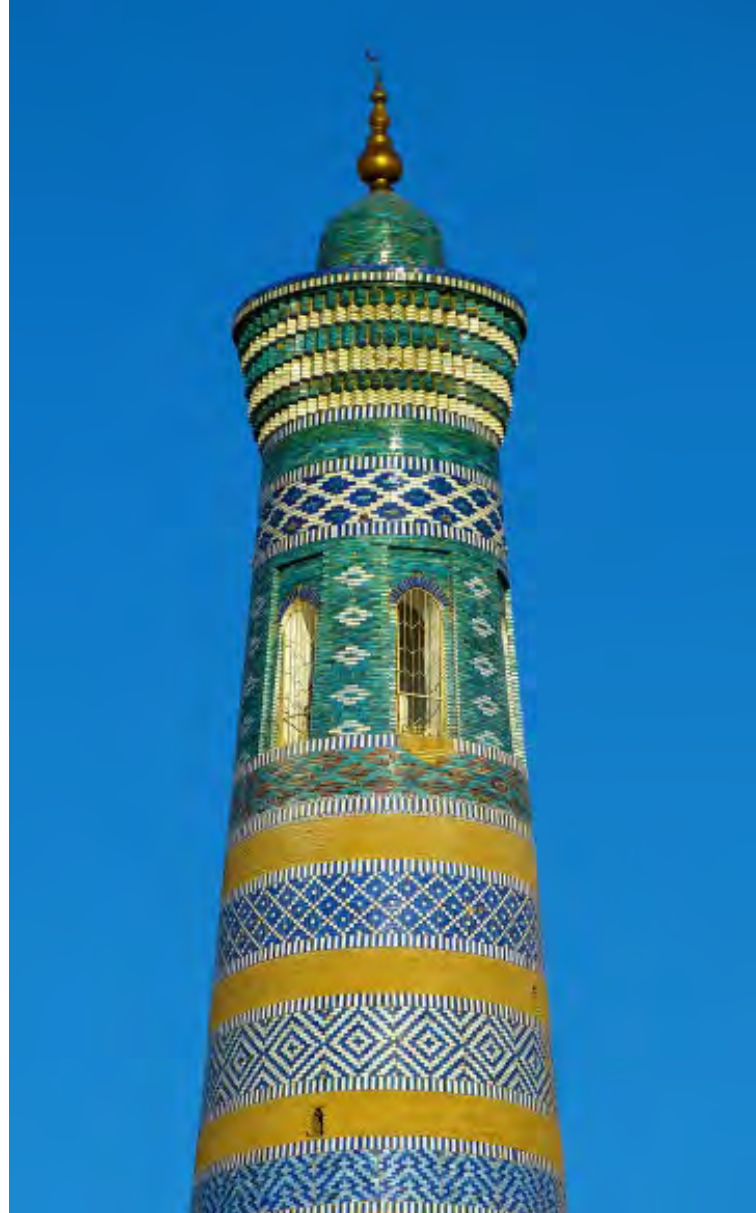
Transfer by road to Khiva and in **true G&T style** we save the best for last and extend our stay for a **3-night stop**. The historic heart of Khiva is completely walled and has been so well preserved that it's often referred to as a **'museum city'**. As you walk through one of the 4 city gates and wander the inner mud-walled city it's hard not to feel like you are **stepping into another era**. You may wish to climb the stairs and to the top of the wall for some of the best views.

The streets of Khiva are filled with ancient buildings, princess towers and cute trinket shops. **The city steals your heart**. The sacred cow may wander the streets in India, well, here it is the camel. The drive today is approximate 6 hours but well worth the effort as we cross big open country and enjoy a very relaxed 3-night stop.

ACCOMMODATION – 3 nights

Darvaza Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Dinner



Day 21 KHIVA

SIGHTSEEING: Walking tour of Khiva:

Today we experience the **UNESCO World Heritage** site of **Itchan Kala** (old city), including Kalta Minor minaret, the Kunya Ark, the Mausoleum of Pahlavan Mahmud and Tash-Hauli Palace.

While in Khiva we will experience a different cooking demonstration. This time it will be Shivit Oshi – a traditional dish known to Khiva. It is a vibrant green noodle dish made with dill-infused pasta, served with a rich meat and vegetable stew on top.

Keen photographers and anyone with a taste for beauty should head out in the late afternoon for spectacular views of Khiva's mostly west-facing facades bathed in the orange glow of the setting sun.

Darvaza Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Dinner



Day 22 KHIVA

Day at leisure.

The old town is at its best at dawn, sunset and by night, when the moonlit silhouettes of the tilting minarets and madrassas, viewed from **twisting alleyways**, work their real magic. Today is yours to discover as you like so you may wish to rise early and **experience Khiva waking up**. The sky changes colour, from orange to pink, to blue, and purple. The colours of the sky make for even prettier, entrancing photos, or wait for our farewell **Gala Dinner** tonight which will be in a great location so that we can take advantage of the sun setting and soak up the great views from our restaurant rooftop terrace. **What a way to finish a magical stay in magical Khiva?**

Darvaza Hotel (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast / Dinner



Day 23 KHIVA TO TASHKENT

After breakfast this morning we all fly back to Tashkent.

- Uzbek Airways flight HY52 09:20/10:40

On arrival we transfer to The Crowne Plaza Hotel for one last night together before the tour concludes tomorrow.

ACCOMMODATION – 1 night

Crowne Plaza (or similar)

MEALS - Breakfast

Day 24 TOUR CONCLUDES IN TASHKENT

Leisurely breakfast this morning and transfers to the airport to suit your onward journey.

MEALS - Breakfast





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'THE SILK ROAD and the BEST of the GOLDEN STANS'

Almaty to Tashkent

Tour Dates:

Departs 8 September and Returns 1 October 2027

Price per person Double or Twin share:

\$15,990.00 AUD per person
(includes 2 x flights and 1 x high speed train ticket)

Single Supplement:

\$2,448.00 AUD single supplement

Availability:

First in First served with one departure ONLY

PRICE INCLUDES:

- 24 days touring Kazakhstan – Kyrgyzstan – Uzbekistan – Tajikistan.
- Arrival transfer in Almaty on tour arrival day (Day 1 only).
- 23 nights' accommodation with a mixture of city hotels, regional guesthouses, and 2 nights in a traditional yurt.
- Accommodation is based on twin/double share (single supplement applicable for single travellers).
- NB:** Our 2 nights in the yurts may require single travellers to share with one other (same sex only)
- 23 x Breakfasts.
- 13 x Lunches.
- 8 x Dinners. (including our Gala Farewell Dinner)
- All sightseeing as per the itinerary (itinerary may change due to daily operations)
- All entrances as per the itinerary.
- All National Park entrance fees.
- All Transport and drivers as per the itinerary.
- Internal flight from Bishkek to Tashkent.
- Internal flight from Khiva/Urgench to Tashkent.
- High-speed train from Samarkand to Bukhara.
- English speaking tour leader throughout.
- English speaking local guides.
- Gools and Thommo as your hosts throughout the entire tour.

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Travel Insurance (Compulsory) and visas if applicable
- Expenses of a personal nature such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.
- Tips and gratuities for the drivers, guides, porters, etc.
- **PLEASE SEE THE TIPPING NOTE BELOW**
- Any additional optional activities you may wish to add.
- Airport – Hotel transfers if extending with additional pre and/or post accommodation outside of the brochure tour dates.

NB: *Prices are subject to change if there are any government tax increases on hotels & transportation or any increases in National Park fees for 2027.



GOOLS & THOMMO = CHERYL & WAYNE

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AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR DEVALUATION REPRICE CLAUSE:

G&T price our tours on a very narrow margin to give you, our clubbers, the very best possible value for money. In the event of a major currency fluctuation/devaluation, we reserve the right to recalculate the price until the final payment due date.

TIPPING NOTE: Tipping of drivers, guides and accommodation staff is customary. We have found from experience that the best way to deal with this is to generate a 'tips kitty' which takes away the guess work and the need for constant small change which can be embarrassing.

- Please budget US\$300 cash per person for the 24 days.
- Please have this cash ready for collection at our pre departure meeting on day 1.
- Small denominations are best and IMPORTANT that all notes are newer than 2013 and have no stains/tears/or writing on them.

G & T NUTS AND BOLTS:

- We are not a Tour Company - we are a Travel Club. This means this tour is not open to the general public.
- This invitation is only for those of you who have travelled with us before and extended to your immediate family and friends.

GRAB YOUR SPOT:

- Seats are strictly limited, and it is as always, a first in first served basis to secure a spot.
- Many of our chosen accommodations are small and intimate and rooms are limited.
- This means, as we secure single room occupancy for our solo travellers the availability will fill more quickly.
- Our group size needs a minimum of 10 guests plus Gools and Thommo to be guaranteed. Our maximum group size is 18 guests.
- Once we receive your booking form, we will check availability in request order and advise you.

NOTE: Completing & submitting this form does not automatically secure your booking. Once received, G&T will confirm and provide an invoice for your deposit. Receipt of your deposit by G&T Travel Club will then secure your booking.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE](#) to go to our online booking form.