

## ***Nomads, Camels and the Great Silk Road***

**Duration:** 15 days

**Destination:** Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan



*This tour offers you an excellent chance to get acquainted with the rich history and nature of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. During this tour you will visit magnificent historical places related to 11-19th century: the fabled mosques and Madrasses of Samarkand and Bukhara with their marvellous design and tiles, see Great Kyrgyz Mountains, relax on the shore of Issyk-Kul lake – the Pearl of Kyrgyzstan, learn about the culture of Central Asian peoples and eat the tastiest national dishes.*



### **Day 1**

#### **BISHKEK – KOCHKOR (270 km)**

AM. Arrival in Bishkek early in the morning. Transfer to a hotel. Rest. Lunch in a local restaurant.

PM. Transfer to Kochkor village (270 km). You will test a traditional Kyrgyz food “Besh-Parmak” during the dinner. Family run accommodation.

### **Day 2**

#### **KOCHKOR – SONG-KUL (130 km)**

Breakfast. Visit the felt carpet workshop, where you can not only buy souvenirs but, produce them yourself. Transfer to Son-Kul lake (130 km). It is the highest lake in Kyrgyzstan, which located at the altitude of 3030 m above sea level. It is an unsalted lake with different kinds of fishes, surrounded by the Great mountains. Picnic for lunch. Accommodation and dinner in the yurta camp.

### **Day 3**

#### **SONG-KUL**

Breakfast. Full day in Son-Kul. You will have time to enjoy with the amazing scenery of this place: edelweiss carpet, beautiful mountains and lake. There are a lot of shepherd’s with their sheeps and horses who came with their families to jailoos for summer time. You will have a chance to visit one of the shepherd’s families where you will be accepted as an honor guest. You may go for horseback riding or visit shephers and taste a national Kyrgyz drink “kymyz”, made of mare’s milk. Overnight stay in the yurta camp.

### **Day 4**

#### **SONG-KUL – JETY-OGUZ (400 km)**

Breakfast. Transfer to Jety-Oguz (400 km) along the South shore of Issyk-Kul. Shepherds tell a lot of legends about the beautiful, famous, red rocks known as “Seven Bulls” and “Broken Heart”. Picnic for lunch on the way. Dinner in the yurta camp. Overnight stay in the yurta camp, in "Flower valley".

### **Day 5**

#### **JETY-OGUZ**

Breakfast. Full day in Jety-Oguz. You will have a chance to explore the Jety-Oguz gorge. The beauty of this place will admire you. You have a chance to go on horseback riding, to chat with the local shepherd’s who will tell you about their lives, families and interesting things about this marvelous place. Overnight stay in the yurta camp.

### **Day 6**

#### **JETY-OGUZ – KARAKOL - CHOLPON-ATA (190 km)**

AM. Breakfast. Transfer to karakol town (40 km). City tour with visiting Prejevalskiy (famous Russian traveler) museum, Russian Orthodox Church, Moslem mosque in Dungan style. Lunch in a Uigur family (Uigur – it small Muslim nationality, who migrated long time ago from China).

PM. Transfer to Cholpon-Ata (150 km). Accommodation in the hotel on the North shore of Issyk-Kul lake. Dinner in the hotel.

#### **Day 7**

##### **CHOLPON-ATA – BISHKEK (250 km)**

Breakfast. Transfer to Bishkek (250 km). You have an excursion on the way to Burana Tower (11th century) the remains of Karakhanid's empire in Central Asia and an Open Air museum of stone inscription. Picnic for lunch. Dinner in a restaurant with Kyrgyz folklore program. Overnight stay in the hotel.

#### **Day 8**

##### **BISHKEK-TASHKENT (by air)**

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport. Fly to Tashkent (1 hour). Upon arrival in Tashkent meet and proceed for city tour of Tashkent. Visit Barak Khan madrasah, Tillya Sheikh mosque and walk through Chorsu bazaar and visit Kukeldash madrasah. After lunch at local restaurant visit Navoi theatre, Applied Arts Museum, Amir Temur Square and walk through Sailgoh street (Broadway). Dinner and overnight at hotel.

#### **Day 9**

##### **TASHKENT – URGENCH (by air) – KHIVA**

After early breakfast transfer to the airport for HY flight to Urgench. On arrival drive to Khiva (30 km) and visit Ichan-Qala including Madrasah Muhammad Amin Khan, Kalta Minar, Kunya Ark, Madrasah Muhammad Rakhimkhan, Pahlavan Mahmud Mausoleum, Islam Khoja Madrasah and Minaret, Juma Mosque, Tash Hovli and Karavan Sarai, Palvan's Gate. Lunch at local restaurant. Dinner and overnight at hotel.

#### **Day 10**

##### **KHIVA–TOPRAKKALA, AYAZQALA (100 km)**

After breakfast excursion to Topraq Qala and other sites of ancient Khorezm State settlements, now located on the territory of Karakalpakstan. This 2000 years old ruined city fortress, 350 by 500 meters and framed by the brooding Sultan Vais Mountain, is the dramatic and best explored in the region. About 2500-3000 years old settlements flourished during I Century BC – III Century AD under Kushan patronage. The later collapse of Kushan and White Hephtalite rule left the region open to devastating Turkic raids which destroyed irrigation canals and lead to the depopulation of the town in the sixth century. Visit Topraq Qala and Ayaz Qala ruins. Camel riding. Lunch, dinner and overnight in yurts.

#### **Day 11**

##### **AYAZKALA-BUKHARA (450 km)**

After breakfast drive to Bukhara. Lunch at local restaurant. Upon arrival in Bukhara transfer to hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### **Day 12**

##### **BUKHARA**

After breakfast proceed for full day city tour of Bukhara. Visit Chor Minor and tandir where tourists will watch backing process of Uzbek bread "lepyoshka". Visit Ark fortress, Bolo Hauz Mosque, Ismail Samani mausoleum and Chashmai Ayub. Lunch at hotel restaurant. PM visit Poi Kalyan complex which consists of Kalyan mosque, Kalyan minaret and Miri Arab madrassah. Also visit Ulugbeg, Abdulazizkhan madrassahs, Trade Domes, ancient Silk Market, Magokki Attori mosque and Labi Hauz complex. Enjoy folk show and dinner at Nadir Divan Begi Madrassa. Overnight at hotel.

#### **Day 13**

##### **BUKHARA – SAMARKAND (275 km)**

After breakfast drive to Samarkand. Upon arrival transfer to Hotel. After lunch proceed for half-day city tour of Samarkand. Visit Reghistan Square, Gur-Emir Mausoleum, Bibi Khanum Mosque and bazaar. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

#### **Day 14**

### **SAMARKAND-TASHKENT (350 km, 5 hrs)**

After breakfast proceed for half-day city tour of Samarkand. Visit Ulugbek Observatory, Afrosiab Museum, Shakhi Zinda necropolis. After lunch at local restaurant drive to Tashkent. Dinner and overnight at hotel.

### **Day 15**

#### **TASHKENT - AIRPORT**

After early breakfast transfer to airport. Fly home.

#### Level of difficulty:

- This tour is suitable for both children and adults.
- This tour is recommended for all people with the experience of long transfer by mountain roads (approximately 5-8 hours per day).

#### Conditions:

- If you have some specific sicknesses you need to bring own first aid kit with necessary medicaments.
- It is necessary to bring warm clothes and trekking boots.

For booking this tour and know more details you can contact recommended travel companies in Central Asia:

Kyrgyzstan:

**NoviNomad Travel**

E-mail: [novinomad@elcat.kg](mailto:novinomad@elcat.kg)

[www.novinomad.com](http://www.novinomad.com)

Uzbekistan:

**Pilgrim Travel**

E-mail: [info@trip.uz](mailto:info@trip.uz)

[www.trip.uz](http://www.trip.uz)

Tajikistan:

**Pamir Travel**

E-mail: [pamir-travel@list.ru](mailto:pamir-travel@list.ru)

[www.travel-pamir.com](http://www.travel-pamir.com)

The tour can be organized in any dates / number of pax, cost & conditions are available upon request.