

Five Stans Central Asia Tour

Almaty – Bishkek – Burana – Don Aryk – Tashkent – Samarkand – Seven Lakes – Penjikent – Bukhara – Turkmenabat – Ashgabat – Darvaza – Khiva – Tashkent

DURATION

14 Days

DESTINATIONS

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan,
Tajikistan, Turkmenistan

TRAVEL STYLE

Private

SUPPORT

Multi-country logistics, visas, borders &
local guides

Overview

This 14-day Five Stans Central Asia Tour connects Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan in one carefully planned route. It is designed for travelers who want to experience the region's best-known Silk Road cities, mountain landscapes, desert scenery and cultural traditions without arranging each border crossing separately.

The journey begins in Almaty, continues to Bishkek and Tashkent, follows the Silk Road through Samarkand and Bukhara, reaches the Seven Lakes and Penjikent in Tajikistan, crosses into Turkmenistan for Ashgabat and Darvaza Gas Crater, and finishes with Khiva and Tashkent in Uzbekistan.

This tour is suitable for active travelers who are comfortable with multi-country travel, changing hotels, border formalities, early transfers and several long travel days. In return, it offers a compact but rich introduction to the history, landscapes and hospitality of all five Central Asian countries.

Tour Highlights



Prices

TRAVELERS	PRICE PER PERSON
1 traveler	On request
2+ travelers	On request

Final quotation is confirmed after inquiry.

Itinerary

DAY 01

Arrival in Almaty, Kazakhstan

Arrive in Almaty, the starting point of your Central Asia journey. After meeting your driver at the airport, transfer to the hotel and check in according to hotel policy. The rest of the day is free to rest after your flight, explore the nearby streets independently or prepare for the coming multi-country route.

DAY 02

Almaty City Tour and Tian Shan Mountain Views

Begin with a scenic drive toward the Chimbulak mountain area, where the Tian Shan range frames the city with dramatic alpine views. After returning to Almaty, continue with key city highlights such as Panfilov Park, Zenkov Cathedral, the Museum of National Musical Instruments and the lively pedestrian area around Arbat Street.

DAY 03

Almaty – Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Leave Almaty and travel by road toward Bishkek, passing open landscapes and crossing into Kyrgyzstan. After arrival, enjoy a short introduction to the Kyrgyz capital, including Oak Park, Ala-Too Square, the Manas monument, the Philharmonic Hall and Victory Square. The day gives a first impression of Kyrgyzstan's Soviet-era architecture and modern city life.

DAY 04**Bishkek – Burana Tower – Don Aryk – Tashkent**

Travel outside Bishkek to visit Burana Tower, an important remnant of the ancient city of Balasagun. Continue to the Don Aryk area for a cultural visit that may include traditional hospitality, local lunch and an introduction to Kyrgyz nomadic heritage. Later, transfer to the airport for the flight to Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

DAY 05**Tashkent City Tour, Uzbekistan**

Explore Tashkent, a capital where old neighborhoods, broad Soviet-style avenues and modern public spaces exist side by side. Visit the Old City area, Khast-Imam surroundings, Chorsu Bazaar, selected metro stations, the Museum of Applied Arts and Amir Timur Square. The day introduces Uzbekistan's urban culture before the route continues to the great Silk Road cities.

DAY 06**Tashkent – Samarkand by Train**

Transfer to the railway station and travel by train to Samarkand, one of the most celebrated cities of the Silk Road. Upon arrival, visit Gur Emir Mausoleum, Registan Square, Bibi Khanum Mosque, Siyob Bazaar and Shakhi-Zinda Necropolis. If time allows, continue to Konigil village to learn about traditional Samarkand paper-making.

DAY 07**Samarkand – Seven Lakes – Penjikent, Tajikistan**

Drive to the Uzbekistan–Tajikistan border and meet your Tajik team after completing formalities. Continue toward the Seven Lakes in the Fann Mountains, a chain of mountain lakes known for changing shades of blue, green and turquoise. Enjoy the scenery and lunch in the lake area before continuing to Penjikent for overnight.

DAY 08**Penjikent – Samarkand – Bukhara**

Visit ancient Penjikent, once an important Sogdian settlement with archaeological remains of houses, a citadel and religious structures. Continue with a short look at the local bazaar, mosque and Rudaki Museum before returning across the border into Uzbekistan. From the Uzbek side, continue by road to Bukhara and check in at the hotel.

DAY 09**Bukhara Old City Tour**

Spend the day walking through Bukhara's atmospheric old city. The sightseeing route may include Lyabi-Hauz, Chor-Minor, Kalyan Minaret, Miri-Arab Madrasa, Ulugbek and Abdulazizkhan madrasahs, Ark Fortress, Ismail Samani Mausoleum, Chashma-Ayub and the traditional trading domes. Free time may be available later in the day.

DAY 10**Bukhara – Turkmenabat – Ashgabat, Turkmenistan**

Enjoy a slower morning in Bukhara before driving to the Farap-Alat border crossing. After completing Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan border procedures, meet the Turkmen team and continue to Turkmenabat Airport for the flight to Ashgabat. On arrival, take an evening drive through the city to see its illuminated monuments and wide marble avenues.

DAY 11**Ashgabat – Old Nisa – Darvaza Gas Crater**

Start with an introductory tour of Ashgabat and nearby historical sites, including Old Nisa, a UNESCO-listed Parthian fortress area, and selected city landmarks. In the afternoon, drive into the Karakum Desert toward Darvaza Gas Crater, visiting desert crater sites along the way when possible. Arrive before sunset and experience the burning crater after dark.

DAY 12**Darvaza – Dashoguz Border – Khiva, Uzbekistan**

After a simple camp-style breakfast, drive north through the Karakum Desert toward the Dashoguz-Shavat border crossing. Complete exit and entry procedures, then meet the Uzbek driver and continue to Khiva. After arrival, check in at the hotel and enjoy free time inside or near the old city walls.

DAY 13**Khiva City Tour – Urgench – Tashkent**

Discover Khiva's UNESCO-listed Ichan-Kala, a compact walled city filled with madrasahs, minarets, palaces and narrow lanes. Visit highlights such as Kalta Minor, Juma Mosque, Tash-Khovli Palace, Pakhlavan Makhmud Mausoleum and Islam Khodja Minaret. Later, transfer to Urgench Airport for the flight to Tashkent and overnight in the capital.

DAY 14**Tashkent Departure**

Check out from the hotel and enjoy free time depending on your flight schedule. Transfer to Tashkent International Airport for departure. This concludes your Five Stans journey through Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

What is Included

- Accommodation in selected hotels or similar category properties according to the final confirmed itinerary
- Daily breakfast at hotels, plus selected meals listed in the final program
- All transfers and transportation according to the route, including suitable vehicles for city, mountain and desert sections
- English-speaking local guides in each country where required by the program
- Airport, railway station and border transfers according to the itinerary
- Economy-class train ticket from Tashkent to Samarkand, subject to schedule availability
- Domestic or regional flight arrangements listed in the final program, such as Bishkek–Tashkent, Turkmenabat–Ashgabat and Urgench–Tashkent
- Entrance tickets for listed sightseeing places according to the confirmed itinerary
- Visa, border and route planning guidance for the multi-country journey
- Selected cultural experiences, tea or coffee breaks, folklore or local activities when included in the final departure program

Not Included

- International flights before and after the tour
- Visa fees, consular fees, border fees, migration taxes or PCR/testing fees where applicable

- Single room supplement or room upgrade charges
- Meals not clearly listed in the final confirmed itinerary
- Personal travel insurance
- Personal expenses, optional activities, photo or video fees and hotel extras
- Tips for guides, drivers and service staff
- Extra accommodation, route changes or flight changes caused by personal preference, schedule changes or border/visa conditions

FAQ

Is this tour exactly 14 days?

Yes. This version is structured as a 14-day Five Stans itinerary starting in Almaty and ending in Tashkent. Timing may be adjusted slightly depending on flight, train and border schedules.

Can this Five Stans tour be customized?

Yes. The route can be adapted for private travelers, different hotel standards, additional nights, special interests or flight schedules. The final version is confirmed after checking availability and border logistics.

Do I need visas for all five countries?

Visa requirements depend on your nationality. Some travelers may be visa-free for certain countries, while others may need e-visas, consular visas or invitation support. We guide you based on passport and travel dates.

Is the tour suitable for first-time visitors to Central Asia?

Yes, it is a strong introduction to the region. Travelers should be comfortable with border crossings, early starts, hotel changes, walking tours and some long road sections.

What should I expect at Darvaza Gas Crater?

Darvaza is a remote desert experience. Access usually requires 4x4 vehicles, and accommodation is simple, often in yurts or camp-style facilities. The highlight is seeing the burning crater in the evening and at night.

Are train and flight times guaranteed?

Train and flight schedules can change. The final itinerary may be adjusted if there are schedule changes, availability issues or border-related changes.



FIVE STANS CENTRAL ASIA TOUR

Plan Your Central Asia Journey

Contact us for updated availability, final price confirmation, visa guidance and custom travel planning.

TOUR ROUTE

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WEBSITE

belettravel.com

EMAIL

info@belettravel.com

WHATSAPP

+99363229627

Belet Travel

Tailor-made journeys across Central Asia