



## Persian Trilogy

Experience one of Central Asia's great journeys from Tashkent to Shiraz along the Persian Royal Road.

Follow the western line of the Silk Road along the trade routes between Tashkent and Shiraz.

The Persian Trilogy is an ideal touring style programme for travellers who want to experience one of Central Asia's great stories; the influence of Persian culture on the great civilizations of central Asia.

Our programme traces the path of migration, trade and conquest between Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Iran where we explore ancient Persia's cultural heritage.

### ARRIVE EARLY ~ STAY LONGER

Talk to us about things to do if you would like to arrive in Tashkent a day or two earlier, or stay a little longer in Shiraz at the end of our tour.

**US\$ 6400**

We plan to operate this itinerary in 2019 at a similar time and hopefully at a similar price. We will update this information later in the year.

all inclusive, prices subject to change.

Based on twin share and minimum of 6 travellers.

Single Room Supplement available (US\$798)

Escorted by

SRA tour leader for more than 6 travellers.

Local English speaking escort for 6 or less travellers



## Trip Details

DURATION - 22 days

AVERAGE TEMP - 10°C - 25°C

ACCOMMODATION STYLE  
- Hotels

SIGHTSEEING STYLE  
- Included

GROUP SIZE STYLE  
- 12

DATES OF TRIPS  
Commences Tashkent  
18 April 2018  
Concludes Shiraz  
9 May 2018

MEALS  
included

TRAVEL STYLE  
Tourist coach, soft sleeper berth train

## Daily Itinerary

### Day 1 - Tashkent

Arrive Tashkent. Our itinerary commences with dinner tonight.

### Day 2 - Tashkent

Sightseeing to include the Applied Art Museum, Hastiman Complex and Chorsu bazaar. Lunch and dinner at local restaurants.

### Day 3 - Tashkent to Samarkand

Morning fast train to Samarkand. Sightseeing this afternoon and tomorrow will include Reghistan Square, Bibi Khanum Mosque and bazaar, Gur Emir mausoleum, Shahki Zinda mausoleum and the observatory of Ulug Bek and Afrasiab Museum.

#### **Day 4 - Samarkand**

Continue sightseeing in Samarkand.

#### **Day 5 - to Bukhara**

Morning fast train to Bukhara. Lunch in Bukhara and commence sightseeing including the Lyabi Hause complex and puppet workshop.

#### **Day 6 - Bukhara**

Full day city sightseeing will include a visit to the key sites in Bukhara including the Ark fortress, Minaret Kalyan (great minaret), Trade Domes, Ismail Samani mausoleum and Chashmai Ayub. Evening folk show at Nadir Divan Begi Madrassah.

#### **Day 7 - Bukhara**

This morning visit the Naqshbandi complex on the outskirts of Bukhara and later this am, visit the small Chor Minor mosque. Free time this afternoon to relax, retrace yesterday's route to the historic buildings, or re-visit the Trade Domes and the myriad of shops.

#### **Day 8 - Bukhara to Mary**

Depart for 2 - 3 hrs drive to the Uzbek/Turkmen border. After completing border formalities, transfer to Turkmenistan transport to continue to Mary.

#### **Day 9 - to Gonur Tepe/Merv**

Today we are off into the desert in 4X4 cars to visit the Margush Site and the recently excavated ruins of the 2000BC city of Gonur.

#### **Day 10 - Merv/Merv**

Full day visit today to Merv, the ancient oasis city located 25km from Mary. Sightseeing will include the mausoleum Sultan Sanjar (XII century), Kyz Kala, Bola Kala, Gyaour Kala and Erk Kala.

#### **Day 11 - to Mashaad via Sarakhs border**

We depart for Mashaad Iran today. It's 200km to the Sarakhs border and a further 200km to Mashaad.

#### **Day 12 - Mashhad**

Full day sightseeing will include the Bazaar-e-Reza spice bazaar, Imam Reza Shrine and Astan-e Ghods-e Razavi, and Gombad-e Sabz (Green Dome). This evening flight to Tehran.

#### **Day 13 - Tehran**

Sightseeing in Tehran to include Sad Abad Palace, the local Bazaar at Tajrish, and the National Jewels Museum.

#### **Day 14 - Tehran - Drive to Kashan**

This morning visit the National Museum of Iran and the Glass museum. Afternoon drive via the Imam Khomeini Mausoleum and Qom to Kashan. Overnight in a traditional house.

#### **Day 15 - Kashan**

Sightseeing in Kashan including the ancient bazaar of Kashan and Tabatabaeis' traditional house. Overnight in a traditional house.

#### **Day 16 - Drive to Esfahan**

This morning drive south to Esfahan. Enroute visit Abyaneh Village and the Jame Mosque in Natanz.

### **Day 17 - Esfahan**

A full day sightseeing around Esfahan is planned for today - including Naghsi-I Jahan Square, Iman Mosque, Sheikh Lott Allah Mosque and the bridges of Esfahan. We also plan to visit Esfahan bazaar.

### **Day 18 - Esfahan**

Sightseeing today will include the Jame Mosque, Vank Cathedral, Chehel Soutoun and Hasht Behest.

### **Day 19 - Drive to Shiraz**

Full day's drive today to Shiraz. We have time to visit the old Caravanserai at Izadkhast and Pasargad UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### **Day 20 - Shiraz**

Sightseeing today will include Narenjestan (Qavam House), Nasir mosque, Vakil Mosque, Bazaar, Shahe Cheraq, Eram Garden, Sadi tomb, Karimkhan citadel.

### **Day 21 - Shiraz - Persepolis**

Full day visit to Persepolis including Naqsh-e rjab and Hafez tomb.

### **Day 22 - depart Shiraz**

Transfer to airport for departure flight.



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