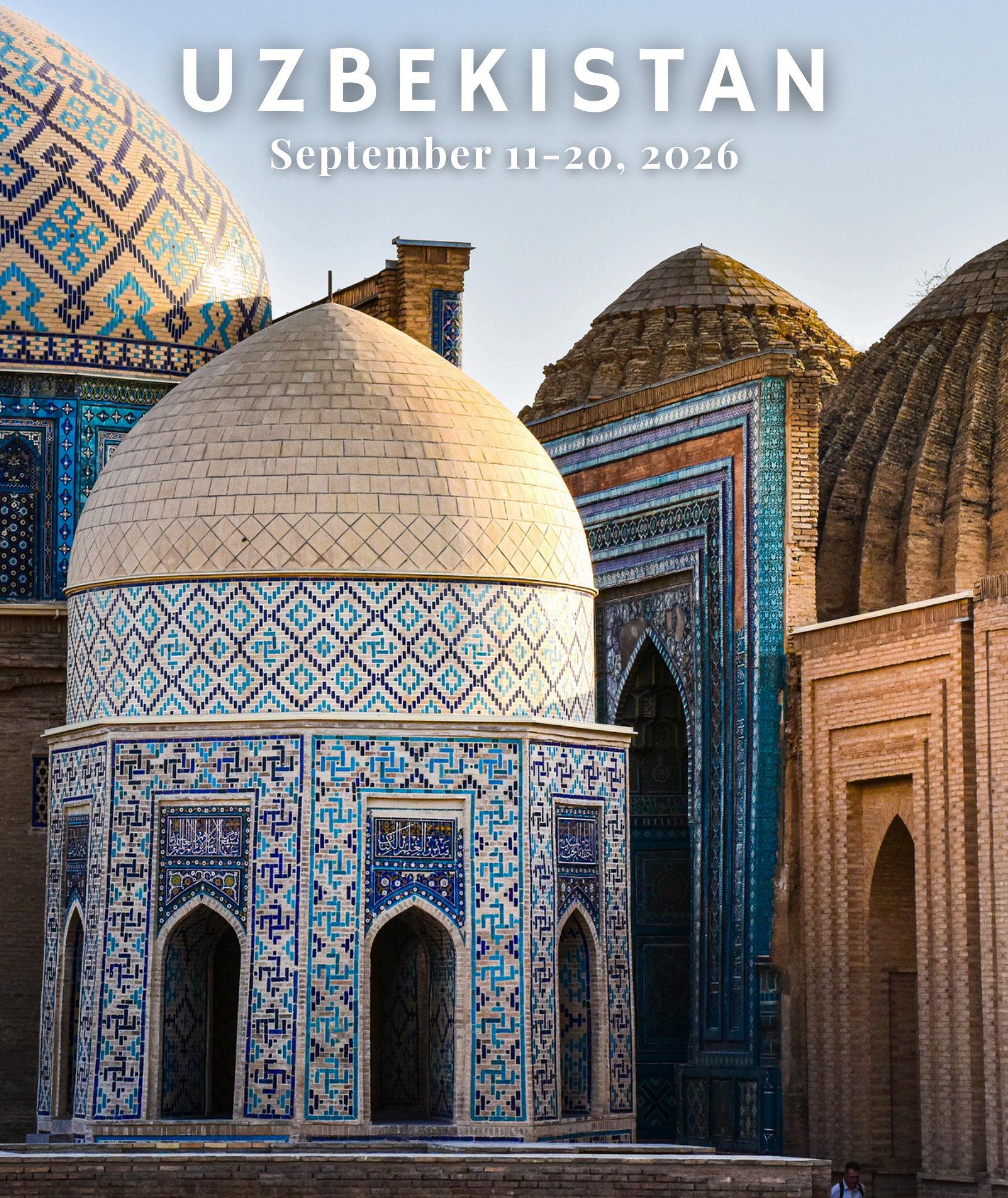


UZBEKISTAN

September 11-20, 2026





ITINERARY

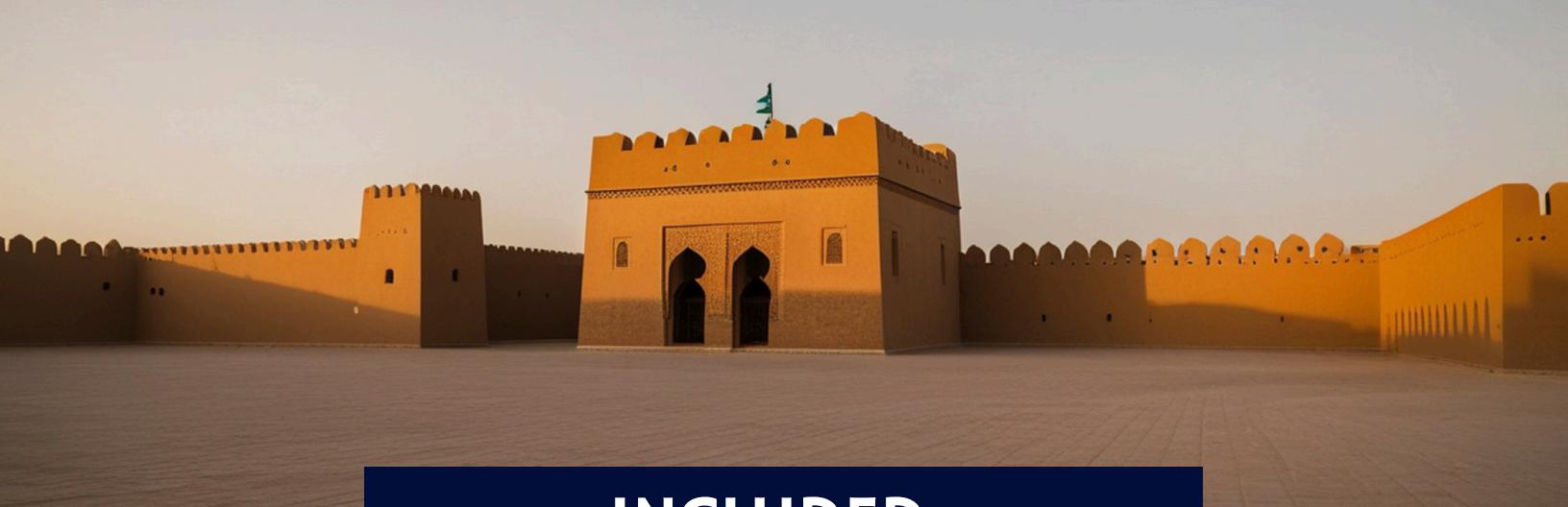
DAY 1	Fri, Sep 11, 2026	Leave USA to ...	
DAY 2	Sat, Sep 12, 2026	Arrive in Tashkent	Tashkent
DAY 3	Sun, Sep 13, 2026	Tashkent sightseeing	Tashkent
DAY 4	Mon, Sep 14, 2026	Fly to Urgench - Khiva sightseeing	Khiva
DAY 5	Tue, Sep 15, 2026	Drive to Bukhara	Bukhara
DAY 6	Wed, Sep 16, 2026	Bukhara sightseeing	Bukhara
DAY 7	Thu, Sep 17, 2026	Drive to Samarkand via Shakhrisabz	Samarkand
DAY 8	Fri, Sep 18, 2026	Samarkand sightseeing	Samarkand
DAY 9	Sat, Sep 19, 2026	Samarkand to Tashkent	Tashkent
DAY 10	Sun, Sep 20, 2026	Departure	

MAP TRAJECTORY



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Registan Square (Samarkand):** Stand in the heart of the Silk Road, surrounded by the three most iconic and intricately tiled madrasahs in the Islamic world.
- **Ichan-Kala (Khiva):** Step back in time within this fully preserved, mud-walled "inner city," a living museum of minarets, palaces, and ancient mosques.
- **The Holy City of Bukhara:** Wander through 2,500 years of history, featuring the soaring Kalyan Minaret and the massive, ancient Ark Fortress.
- **Birthplace of Tamerlane (Shahrisabz):** Explore the ruins of the majestic "White Palace" (Aq-Sarai) in the UNESCO-listed green city where the great conqueror was born.
- **Chorsu Bazaar:** Experience the sensory explosion of a traditional Central Asian market, operating under a massive turquoise dome for centuries.
- **The Subterranean Palaces:** Discover the art and architecture of the Tashkent Metro, where each station is uniquely decorated with marble, mosaics, and chandeliers.
- **Gur-e Amir Mausoleum:** Marvel at the breathtaking azure fluted dome and gold-leafed interior of Tamerlane's final resting place.
- **Ancient Astronomy:** Visit the Ulugh Beg Observatory, where medieval scientists mapped the stars with incredible precision long before the modern era.
- **The Silk Road Spirit:** Enjoy the seamless blend of architectural grandeur, warm Uzbek hospitality, and a rich tapestry of vibrant local crafts.



INCLUDED

8 Nights hotel accommodation with daily breakfast, in hotels given below.

7 lunches and 7 dinners as indicated in the itinerary.

Bottled water for meals. Special meal with music/dance show in Bukhara.

English speaking professional tour guide.

Transportation with AC vehicles & drivers.

Air or train ticket from Samarkand to Tashkent depending on availability.

Two small bottles of water per person on the bus on touring days.

Arrival and departure transfers.

All entry fees to places mentioned in the itinerary. Wine tasting in Samarkand.

Porterage at hotels.

Tips for meals and accommodations.

NOT INCLUDED

International airfare. Visa fees if applicable. Drinks with included meals, except tea or coffee for breakfast. Gratuities for guides & drivers. Personal expenditures like phone calls, laundry, medical expenses. Travel insurance.



SUGGESTED FLIGHTS

Suggested flights are on [Turkish Airlines](#), via Istanbul:

11 SEP TK 34	Houston to Istanbul dep: 9:05 pm / arr: 5:05 pm (Sep 12) Layover in Istanbul 1h 10m
12 SEP TK 370	Istanbul to Tashkent dep: 6:15 pm / arr: 12:40 am (Sep 13)
20 SEP TK 369	Tashkent to Istanbul dep: 9:20 am / arr: 12:45 pm Layover in Istanbul 1h 25m
20 SEP TK 33	Istanbul to Houston dep: 2:10 pm / arr: 7:10 pm

Economy class: \$1,500

Business class: 5,800

Fares are per person, including taxes, surcharges and fees as of January 2, 2026.

Fares are non-refundable and may change based on availability.

Preferred Travel Partner



September 11-20, 2026
10 Days/ 8 Nights

ACCOMMODATIONS

September, 2026
10 Days / 8 Nights

Lotte Tashkent Palace

Tashkent

www.lottehotel.com/



Farovon Hotel

Khiva

<https://farovonkhiva.uz>



Paradise Plaza

Bukhara

[Bukhara Hotel](#)



Zarafshon Parkside

Samarkand

www.zarafshonparkside.com/





PROGRAM DETAILS

Day 1: Fri, Sep 11

Leave USA

We will leave USA for Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Overnight en route

Meals: -

Day 2: Sat, Sep 12

Tashkent

Our arrival will be late at night. We will be transferred to our hotel.

Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 3: Sun, Sep 13

Tashkent

Today, we delve into the heart of Tashkent, a city where ancient spiritual traditions meet modern ambition. Our journey begins at the Khazret Imam Square, the city's spiritual center for over a millennium. We will visit the Friday Mosque and the mausoleum of the "Saint Imam," Abu Bakr Kaffal Shashi, a 10th-century scholar and poet whose influence shaped the region's theology. Nearby stands the Barak-Khan Madrasah, a 16th-century architectural masterpiece famous for its blue-tiled domes and its history as a beacon of Islamic learning.

We then proceed to the Kukeldash Madrasah, standing proudly on a hill near the ancient Chorsu Bazaar. For centuries, this area was the ultimate "crossroad" (Chorsu) of caravan routes, where silk, spices, and stories were traded under giant domes.

After exploring the bustling bazaar, we transition to modern history at Independence Square, home to grand government buildings and fountains, and conclude with an immersive visit to the Museum of History of Uzbekistan.

Historical Insight: The 7th-Century Quran Within the Khazret Imam complex lies the Muyi Muborak Madrasah, home to one of the world's most precious treasures: the Uthman Quran. Written on deerskin in the 7th century, it is believed to be the world's oldest copy of the Quran, brought to Samarkand by Tamerlane and eventually returned to Tashkent as a symbol of the nation's deep religious heritage.

Overnight in Tashkent

Meals: B –L- D

Day 4: Mon, Sep 14

Tashkent - Urgench - Khiva

A morning flight takes us to Urgench, followed by a drive to the legendary city of Khiva. This city is home to the Ichan-Kala (Royal Court), a walled inner city containing some of the best-preserved Islamic architecture in Central Asia.

Our walking tour will lead us through a labyrinth of history, visiting the Kunya-Ark Fortress, the towering Islam Khoda Minaret, and the Tash Hauli Palace. We will also explore the Jami Mosque and the Pakhlavan Mahmoud Mausoleum, among many other madrasahs and complexes.

Historical Legacy of Ichan-Kala: While some structures date back to the 12th century, most of the Ichan-Kala's current skyline was shaped between 1780 and 1850. During this era, Khiva flourished as a critical fortress and trade depot, and its mud-brick walls today protect over 50 historic monuments.

Overnight in Khiva – Urgench

Meals: B - L - D

Day 5 Tue, Sep 15

Khiva - Bukhara

Leaving the walled city of Khiva behind, we embark on a scenic drive through the vast Kyzylkum Desert (the "Red Sands") toward the legendary city of Bukhara.

This route follows the ancient path of the Silk Road traders, crossing the Amu Darya river. Upon arrival in Bukhara, we enjoy a leisurely evening stroll through the historic center, allowing the city's ancient atmosphere to settle in before our deep exploration begins tomorrow.

Overnight in Bukhara

Meals: B - L - D



Day 6: Wed, Sep 16**Bukhara**

Bukhara is often described as an "open-air museum," and today we explore its 2,500-year history.

We begin at the Ismael Samani Mausoleum, a 10th-century architectural "bolt from the blue" that survived Genghis Khan's destruction by being buried in the sand. Its unique brickwork creates shifting patterns of light and shadow that have fascinated architects for centuries.

We also visit the Ark Fortress, a "city within a city" that served as the residence of Bukhara's Emirs for over a millennium. The highlight of the day is the Poli-Kalon Ensemble, featuring the iconic Kalyan Minaret. Soaring 47 meters high, this "Tower of Death" was so majestic that Genghis Khan reportedly ordered it to be spared even as he razed the rest of the city.

We conclude by wandering through the Taqi (Trading Domes), where the air still hums with the legacy of medieval commerce. In the evening, we will have a special dinner at a historic madrasah, with local music and folk dance show.

Cultural Legacy: A Scholarly Hub During the Middle Ages, Bukhara was the "Dome of Islam," a center for scientists and philosophers like Avicenna (Ibn Sina). It was a remarkably cosmopolitan city where ethnic Tajiks, Persians, and a significant Jewish community lived side-by-side, creating a rich tapestry of crafts, from gold embroidery to fine silk weaving, that continues to thrive today.

Overnight in Bukhara**Meals: B - L - D****Day 7: Thu, Sep 17****Bukhara - Shakhrisabz - Samarkand**

In the morning, travel to Shakhrisabz, the "Green City" and birthplace of the Great Timur, also known as Tamerlane.

This UNESCO World Heritage site is home to the Aq-Sarai (White Palace), Tamerlane's massive summer residence built in the 1300s, which once boasted the widest archway in Central Asia. After visiting the blue-domed Kok-Gumbaz Mosque and the Dorus-Siadat mausoleum, we will continue our drive to the legendary city of Samarkand.

The Crossroads of Empires: Shakhrisabz holds layers of history far older than the Timurid era. It was near here that Alexander the Great spent his winters and met his wife Roxanna, and where Ptolemy defeated the Achaemenid Empire.

Overnight in Samarkand**Meals: B - L - D**

Today is dedicated to the legendary city of Samarkand, the capital of Tamerlane's 14th-century empire and a crown jewel of the Silk Road. Located in the fertile valley of the Zeravshan River, this area has provided favorable conditions for human settlement for millennia. In 2001, UNESCO recognized its immense historical value by adding it to the World Heritage List as "Samarkand – Crossroads of Cultures".

Our exploration begins at the Registan, the majestic heart of the ancient city. This grand square was once the site of public executions and royal proclamations, which were heralded to the masses by the blasts of enormous copper pipes known as dzharchis. We will tour the three iconic madrasahs surrounding the square—the Ulugh Beg, Sher-Dor, and Tilya-Kori—as well as the restored Chorsu trading dome located nearby.

In the afternoon, our journey through Samarkand's architectural masterpieces continues. We will visit the Gur-e Amir Mausoleum, the final resting place of Tamerlane, followed by the massive Bibi Khanum Mosque and the stunning Shah-i-Zinda necropolis. Our day concludes with a visit to the Ulugh Beg Observatory and the Ruins of Afrosiab, an ancient town site and museum that preserves the city's history from the 6th century BC to the 13th century AD.

To conclude our day, we step away from the monuments to experience Samarkand's spirited history at the Khovrenko Winery. Founded in 1868, it is one of the oldest wineries in Central Asia. Here, you will enjoy a guided tour of the Museum of Winemaking, located in the historic home of founder Dmitry Filatov, followed by a professional tasting of award-winning local wines, cognacs, and the famous Samarkand balsam.

Overnight in Samarkand

Meals: B - L - D

Historical Insight: The Legacy of Tamerlane and Ulugh Beg Samarkand reached its zenith under the Timurid dynasty. While Tamerlane built the city into a formidable imperial capital, his grandson, Ulugh Beg, transformed it into a world-renowned center for scholarly and scientific study. The observatory he constructed was one of the finest in the Islamic world, allowing medieval astronomers to calculate the length of the year with remarkable accuracy centuries before modern technology.

A Legacy in Every Drop: Winemaking in Samarkand While Samarkand is famous for its blue tiles, it is also a historic hub for viticulture, with traditions dating back over 2,000 years. The Zeravshan Valley's unique climate—with over 200 sunny days a year—produces grapes with an extraordinary sugar content, often 25% compared to the global average of 16%. The modern industry was pioneered by Dmitry Filatov, whose "Biishty" wine won a gold medal in Paris in 1883, and was later revolutionized by Professor Mikhail Khovrenko, who developed the first vintage wines of Uzbekistan. Visitors today can taste the legacy of these pioneers, including unique dessert wines like Gulyakandoz—the only wine in the world made from seedless grape varieties—and the potent Samarkand Balsam, crafted from a secret blend of 40 local herbs, grapes, and honey.

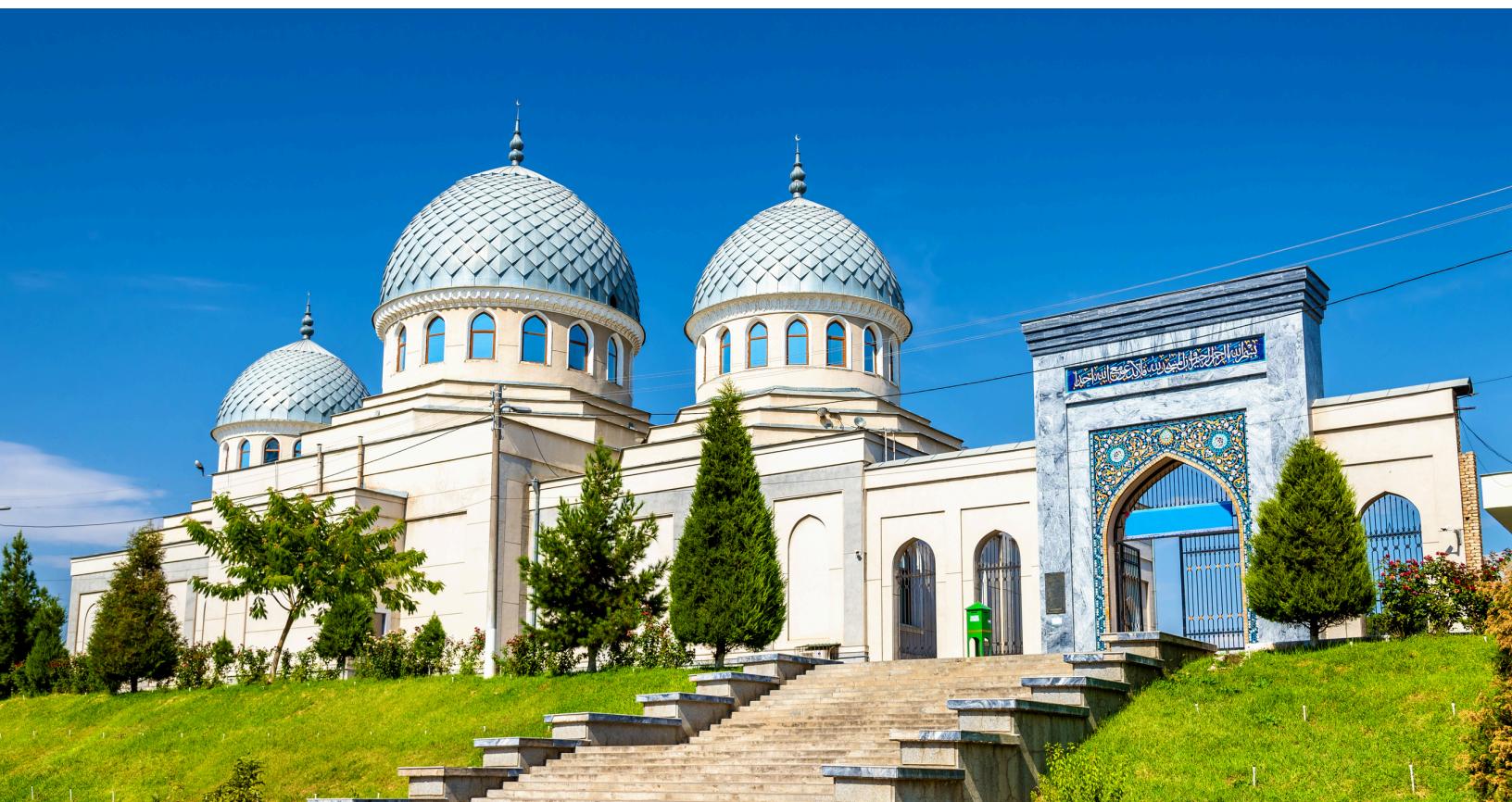
After an early flight back to the capital, we spend our final day in Uzbekistan exploring the artistic and imperial legacy of the Timurid dynasty. We visit the State Museum of the Temurids, located in a striking turquoise-domed building in the heart of Tashkent. Inside, we discover the military and cultural achievements of Amir Timur (Tamerlane), whose empire stretched from the Mediterranean to India. We also take time to experience the Tashkent Subway, where each station is a subterranean palace. These stations were designed by the Soviet Union's finest artists and architects, featuring marble, chandeliers, and murals that tell the story of the Uzbek people.

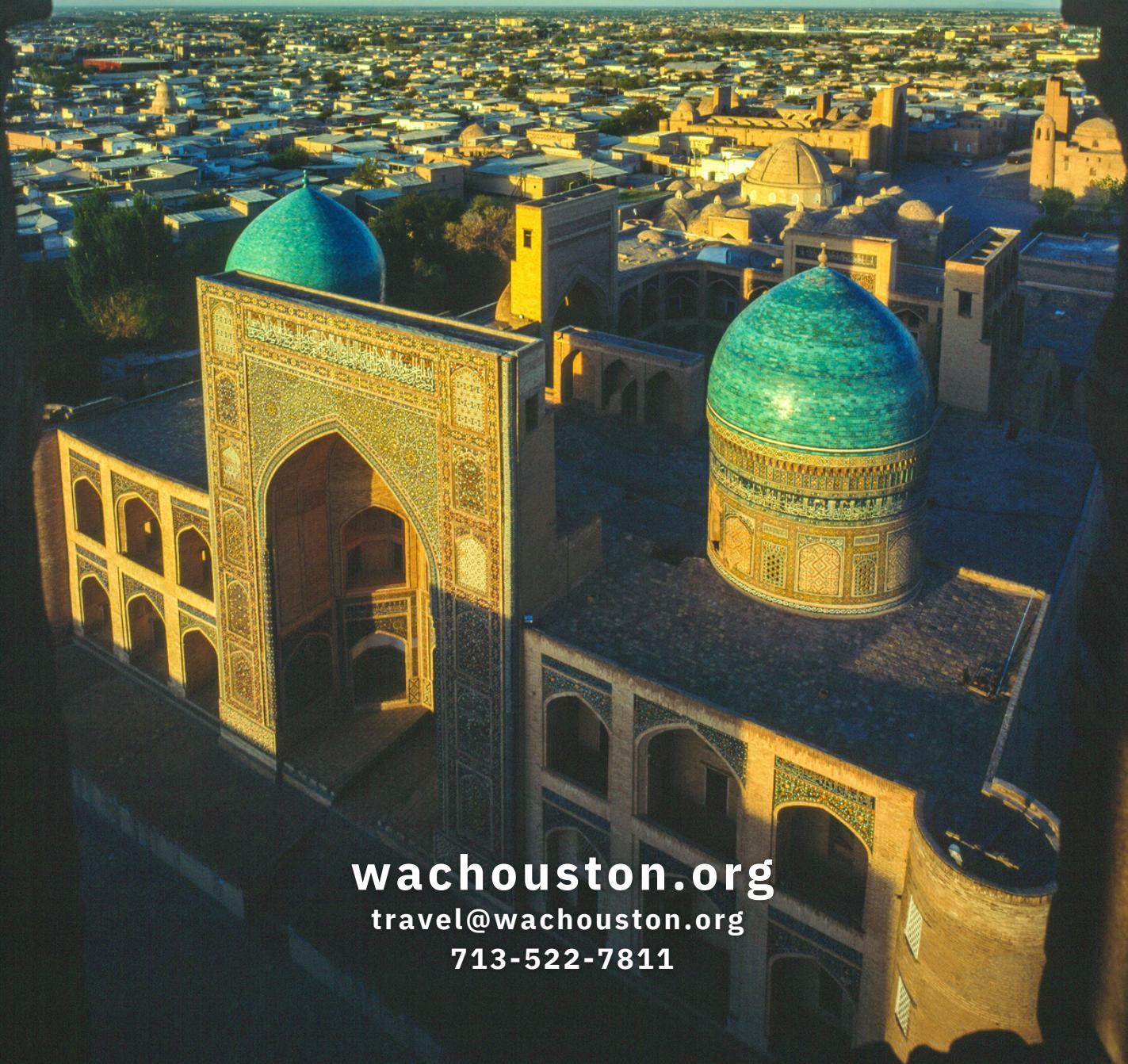
Tamerlane's Legend: The Museum of the Temurids serves as a bridge between Samarkand and the modern capital. It highlights how Tamerlane's reign sparked a "Timurid Renaissance," a period of unprecedented growth in science, astronomy, and architecture that established Central Asia as a world leader in human achievement during the 14th and 15th centuries.

Overnight in Tashkent**Meals: B - L - D**

Day 10: Sun, Sep 20**Departure**

Early in the morning, we will be transferred to the airport for our return flight.





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