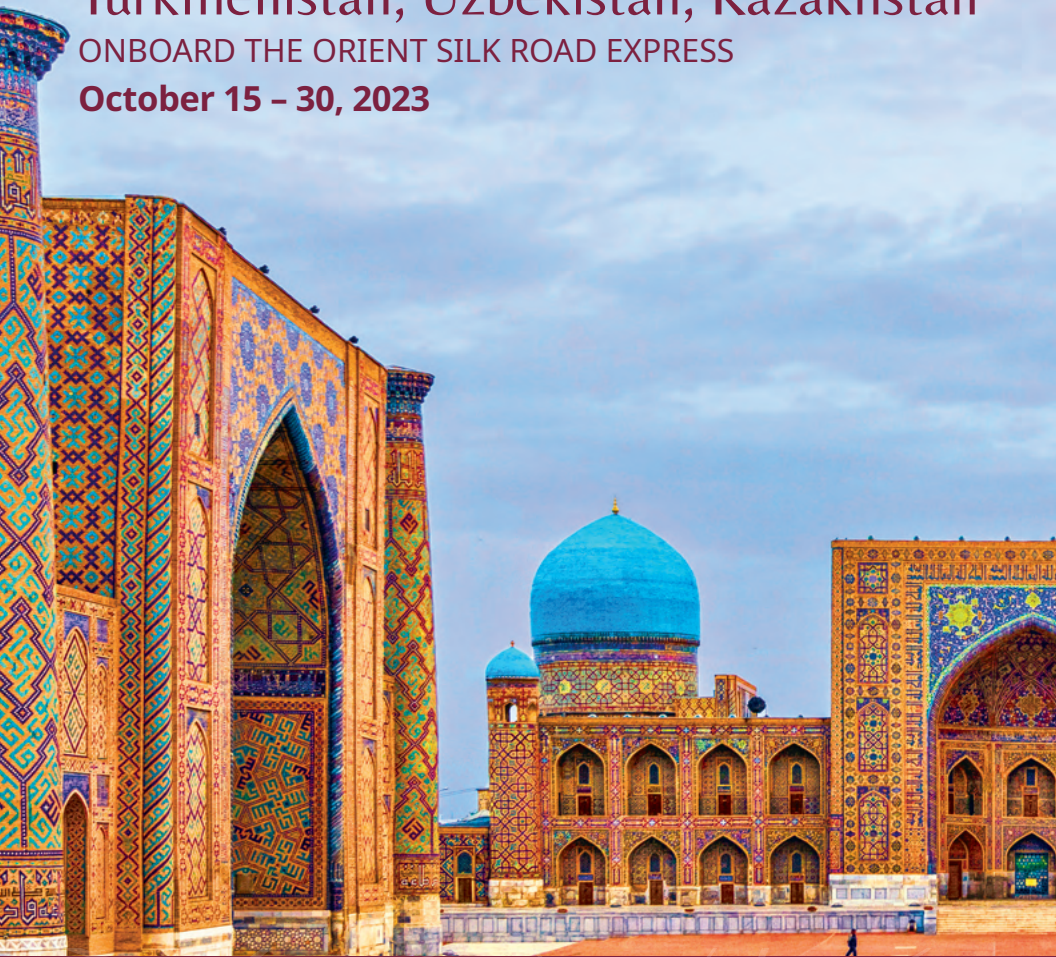


The Legendary Silk Road

Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan

ONBOARD THE ORIENT SILK ROAD EXPRESS

October 15 - 30, 2023



Presented By:

**GLP Worldwide for
Canadian University
Alumni and Friends**

*Travel for
Travellers*

BY GLP WORLDWIDE

Dear Canadian University Alumni and Friends,

For 1500 years, the Silk Road was the most important trade route in the world – the conduit for everything from spices and porcelain to horses and exotic animals, and the cultural link between the worlds of East Asia, the Middle East and Europe. The route was shut down by the Ottoman Empire in the 15th century. But our fascination with the caravans that travelled the Silk Road, and the magnificent cities they traded with and enriched, has never gone away.

Join us on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure: experience these remote locations while travelling on a luxurious private train, the Orient Silk Road Express.

Begin in Ashgabat, in the former Soviet republic of Turkmenistan, with a guided tour of ancient artefacts from the ruins at Nisa, then travel by private train to the lost city of Merv, once the world's largest, destroyed by Genghis Khan. In Uzbekistan, visit the desert city of Bukhara, where you will tour the ancient Ark of Bukhara citadel, the Mir-e-Arab Madrassa, and Samanid Mausoleum. In Khiva, and then the historic city of Samarqand, visit archaeological sites and the Shah-I-Zinda necropolis.

Further down the Silk Road, the Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi awaits. A sightseeing tour of gorgeous Almaty rounds out the experience.

Reserve your space on this unique journey along the Silk Road. For more information or to make a reservation, please contact GLP Worldwide at 1-866-760-1987 or alumni@glpworldwide.com

Sincerely,



*Timothy Tsung
Director of Product Development
GLP Worldwide*



Any and all facts, information and descriptions contained in this brochure are believed to be accurate at the time of publishing. Itineraries, ships, product offers, terms and any other information provided herein are subject to change without notice. Completeness or accuracy is not guaranteed, and the most up-to-date information can be obtained on our website or by calling us at 1-866-760-1987.

Although considerable care has been taken in preparing the information obtained in this brochure, it is provided on an "as is" basis, without warranty of any kind either express or implied.

ITINERARY

THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD

*Onboard the Orient Silk Road Express
October 15 – 30, 2023*



DAY 1 | OCT 15 | DEPART FOR TURKMENISTAN

Departure to Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

DAY 2 | OCT 16 | EN ROUTE



Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

DAY 3 | OCT 17 | WELCOME TO ASHGABAT, TURKMENISTAN (B)

Arrive early in the morning and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure in Turkmenistan's extraordinary capital city, where the mountains meet the desert.

DAY 4 | OCT 18 | ASHGABAT AND ANCIENT NISA (B,L,D)

In the morning, visit a bustling traditional market, and then travel to the ancient Parthian city of Nisa; then take a guided tour of the National Museum in Ashgabat, and see artefacts excavated from the Nisa ruins. After lunch, take a brief tour of Ashgabat, rebuilt in recent years on the orders of President Saparmurat Niyazov, the self-proclaimed Turkmenbashi, or "great leader of all Turkmen." Dine aboard the train, which will be your overnight home for the next two nights.

DAY 5 | OCT 19 | MERV, THE ANCIENT PEARL OF THE EAST (B,L,D)

Arrive early in the morning at the Merv, once one of the world's largest and most magnificent cities, now an archaeological site and a UNESCO-designated World Heritage Centre. The initial impression is of disbelief: gigantic walls and ramparts stand in the middle of the desert next to the imposing ruins of ancient buildings – the Tomb of the Sultan Sanjar, the Maidens' Castle (Kyz Kala), the historical ice houses, and others. Lunch is served in the picturesque courtyard of a local family home.



Merv, Turkmenistan

DAY 6 | OCT 20 | BUKHARA THE NOBLE (B,L,D)

The city of Bukhara, located deep in the Kyzylkum Desert, is the site of a thousand architectural monuments from the golden age of the Great Silk Route. Exotic spices, furs and silk were stored and traded in the city's caravanserais, or roadside inns. In Bukhara's Old Town is the Kalyan Minaret, almost 50 metres tall, and the Lyab-I Hauz Ensemble by the pond, among other sights. In a madrasa courtyard, watch a performance of local dances and a presentation of colourful national costumes with musical accompaniment. Overnight in a hotel for the next two nights.



Kalyan Minaret, Bukhara, Uzbekistan

DAY 7 | OCT 21 | THE SAMANID MAUSOLEUM (B,L,D)

Bukhara's ancient oriental spirit lives on in its unparalleled array of authentic architecture. In the morning, visit the splendid Mir-e-Arab Madrasa and the Samanid Mausoleum, one of Central Asia's most beautiful structures. Then tour the massive Ark of Bukhara, once the local seat of government. See the Throne Room, then proceed to the last emir's summer residence. End your stay with a visit to the world's only women's mosque, just outside the city.

DAY 8 | OCT 22 | FROM BUKHARA TO KHIVA (B,L,D)

Spend a final morning exploring the romantic winding streets of Bukhara, then board your private train for Khiva and enjoy the stunning landscapes: wide steppes, blue sky and distant mountains, the same natural beauty that inspired the ancients who came before you. Overnight onboard the train for the next two nights.

DAY 9 | OCT 23 | FROM THE PAGES OF 1001 NIGHTS (B,L,D)

Arrive after breakfast at the southern edge of the Zhetysu (seven rivers) landscape. Standing at the town wall, with its gates and bastions of mud brick, you will be transported into another world. Life pulses around the base of the Kalta Minor Minaret, just as it did in former times. Its palaces, mosques, minarets, mausoleums and madrasas represent some of the best-preserved examples of medieval oriental architecture. Enjoy lunch in the former emir's summer palace. Leave by private train for Samarqand in the evening.

DAY 10 | OCT 24 | SAMARQAND THE ANCIENT (B,L,D)

Explore the sights of this legendary city, starting with Registan Square, stop at the Ulug Beg Observatory and the ruins of the Bibi Khanum Mosque, and view the interior of the palatial Gur-e Amir Mausoleum. Overnight in a hotel for the next two nights.



Gur Emir Mausoleum, Samarqand, Uzbekistan

**DAY 11 | OCT 25 | SAMARQAND,
CROSSROAD OF CULTURES (B,L,D)**

Once considered the world's most prestigious city during the rule of Timur, visit of Samarqand continues as you see the Necropolis of Shah-e Zinde, and the excavation sites at Afrosiab.

Note: Days 10 and 11 may be swapped due to rail logistics.

**DAY 12 | OCT 26 | SHAHRISABZ
THE MIGHTY (B,L,D)**

On an excursion to the surrounding mountain region, enjoy a traditional ceremony offering insight into the region's unique folklore, and experience local daily life. Board the train and continue along the Great Silk Road to the birthplace of Timur, Shakhrisabz, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. See the monumental architecture of the Mongol ruler's Great Palace from the 14th and 15th centuries. In the evening, depart for Tashkent, and enjoy a tasting of Uzbek wines. Overnight onboard your private train for the next three nights.



Shahrisabz, Uzbekistan

**DAY 13 | OCT 27 | TASHKENT,
UZBEKISTAN (B,L,D)**

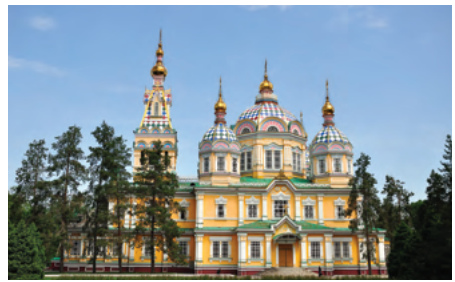
In the morning your train pulls into the Uzbek capital of Tashkent. A sightseeing tour of the city offers a closer look at this green oasis in the steppe. See the Madrassa Kukeldash, the Kavoj and Amir Timur monuments, and typical Kazakh mud brick houses. In the evening, attend a concert at a music hall (program permitting). Afterwards, your train departs for Kazakhstan.

**DAY 14 | OCT 28 | NOMAD'S
PILGRIMAGE CENTER: TURKISTAN
(B,L,D)**

Formalities at the Kazakhstan border are completed in the comfort of your compartment. Arrive in the city of Turkestan before noon. Visit the Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most significant examples of Timurid architecture. Afterwards, continue by train to Almaty.

**DAY 15 | OCT 29 | ALMATY –
THE FATHER OF APPLES,
KAZAKHSTAN (B,L,D)**

Train arrives in Almaty after lunch. A sightseeing tour offers an overview of this green metropolis at the foot of the mighty Ile Alatau Mountains. See the imposing Zenkov Russian Orthodox Cathedral, built entirely of wood, the Wedding Palace, the Almaty Circus, and the Central Mosque. In the evening, enjoy a delicious dinner in a traditional Kazakh yurt. Stay overnight in a hotel.



Ascension Cathedral, Almaty, Kazakhstan

DAY 16 | OCT 30 | ALMATY

Catch the transfer for the return flight home. Leave the wide blue skies, open steppe and epic monuments behind, laden with unparalleled memories of the Silk Road.

TRAIN INFORMATION



ORIENT SILK ROAD EXPRESS

The train was refurbished a few years ago to the highest standards of comfort and safety. For further peace of mind, there is a doctor on board, available 24/7. As for comfort, the train is fully air conditioned and offers fresh dining options and bar service, perfect for a cool drink.



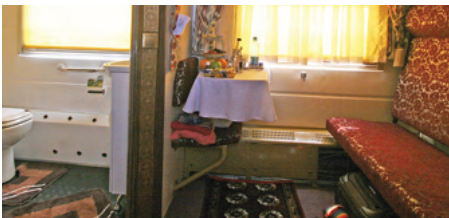
ALADDIN

This category features two lower beds (27.5 x 74.8 in / 67 x 184 cm each), a small table and storage space. Each car has eight compartments and a shower, together with washroom facilities at both ends. Guest in this category also receive one bathrobe per person.



SULTAN

This category features two beds, upper and lower (31.6 x 68.5 in / 80 x 174 cm and 43.3 x 72.4 in / 110 x 184 cm). These compartments also offer comfortable seating, a larger table and a small closet. Each room has its own private bathroom, complete with integrated shower. The cars in this category are comprised of just six compartments.



KALIF

This category features two beds, upper and lower (31.6 x 68.5 in / 80 x 174 cm and 44 x 72.4 in / 112 x 184 cm). Each compartment includes a closet, safe and private bathroom with a separate shower cabin. Each car in this category is limited to four compartments and a maximum of just eight guests.



Restaurant car

PRICING & TERMS

CABIN CATEGORY

Ali Baba
Aladdin
Sultan
Kalif

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

CAD \$12,180 per person
CAD \$13,070 per person
CAD \$18,930 per person
CAD \$19,530 per person

SINGLE OCCUPANCY

CAD \$14,710 per person
CAD \$16,240 per person
CAD \$25,690 per person
CAD \$26,940 per person

INCLUSIONS:

- International roundtrip airfare in economy class from Toronto to Ashgabat, and return from Almaty
- 7 nights onboard the Orient Silk Road Express
- 6 nights in well-appointed hotels
- Expert tour director, group guide and English-speaking local guides
- All transfers and bus trips according to itinerary
- All excursions and sightseeing as per itinerary, including entrance fees
- All meals as per itinerary
- Local culinary specialties prepared freshly on board
- Information booklet about the region and your private train
- Doctor on board
- Porters at all train stations
- Visa fees for Turkmenistan for Canadian passport holders
- Tips and gratuities

EXCLUSIONS:

- Optional travel, health, accident or other insurance

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS

First deposit: CAD \$2,500 per person at the time of booking
Second deposit: CAD \$2,500 per person, due on January 13, 2023
Final payment: Due on June 09, 2023

Note:

1. Passenger names must match passport.
2. Please ensure that passports are valid up till after six (6) months at last destination.
3. No visa is required to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan for Canadian passport holders.

CANCELLATION CHARGES

From time of booking to January 12, 2023 CAD \$2,500 per person
January 13, 2023 – June 08, 2023 CAD \$5,000 per person
June 09, 2023 – August 10, 2023 50% of tour cost
August 11, 2023 to date of departure 100% of tour cost

Air cancellation penalties are subject to airline regulations.

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation or comprehensive travel insurance at the time of booking. Please contact GLP Worldwide for a quotation. Prices above are in Canadian Dollars. The program and all related travel services described herein are subject to the detailed terms & conditions of GLP Worldwide which are available at any time upon request and which will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Any booking resulting out of the information in this brochure is subject to the complete terms & conditions found on our website www.travelfortravellers.com/alumni-travel/

GLP Worldwide acts solely as agent between the passenger and the supplier(s) providing services as described in the brochure. GLP Worldwide assumes no responsibility for any claims, damages or expenses arising from situations beyond our control. All trains, transportations and services booked are subject to the Conditions of Carriage of the relevant carrier. Full Conditions of Carriage for each carrier are available on our website or by contacting our office.

UPCOMING INFO SESSION! CALL IN TODAY TO REGISTER NOW! 1-866-760-1987

ISRAEL, EGYPT & JORDAN

JAN 24 - FEB 7, 2024

*Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Cairo,
Hurghada, Luxor, Petra,
Dead Sea*



THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD

OCT 15 - 30, 2023

*Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan,
Kazakhstan*



SOUTH KOREA & JAPAN

MAY 8 - 26, 2023

*Seoul, Busan, Kyoto,
Hiroshima, Kanazawa,
Takayama, Yatsugatake,
Tokyo*



AFRICAN EXPLORER

JAN 26 - FEB 13, 2023

South Africa, Namibia



JOURNEY THROUGH VIETNAM

NOV 6 - 20, 2023

*Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hue, Da Nang,
Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh City*

*Travel for
Travellers*

BY GLP WORLDWIDE

CONTACT GLP WORLDWIDE AT

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