

Ancient Shakhrisabz and the Grand Cave of Tamerlane (3 Days)

An exciting combined tour – a historical and ethnographic program featuring world-renowned UNESCO-protected monuments in the city of Shakhrisabz, the birthplace of Tamerlane, the great commander and founder of a vast medieval empire. This tour includes trekking combined with speleo-tourism in one of the most interesting corners of Uzbekistan, the Gissar Mountains – perfect for adventure and exoticism lovers.

You will visit the legendary karst cave of Tamerlane, hidden in a grand canyon reminiscent of the iconic canyon from the cult film "Mackenna's Gold." Although the cave is not very large by world standards (with a length of 560 meters) and does not compare in beauty to many caves around the world, its value lies in the fact that it is an absolutely wild natural cave steeped in legends, located in a remarkably beautiful, wild, and hard-to-reach mountainous karst area.

Program:

Day 1: Transfer from Tashkent to Shakhrisabz. Hotel. Evening excursion in Shakhrisabz. Travel from Tashkent to Shakhrisabz via the Takhta-Karacha pass (430 km; 6 hours). Accommodation at the hotel.

Evening city tour: Ok-Saroy, built in the late 14th to early 15th centuries on the orders of Amir Timur, the burial complexes of Dorus-Siyadat and Dorus-Tilyavat (UNESCO sites).

The ancient domes of Kok-Gumbaz, which preserve fragments of ancient mosaics, and the walls of the Ok-Saroy Palace soar in the lights of projectors, seemingly transporting us back to the distant medieval era.

Meals: –/lunch/dinner

Day 2: Early start, ~ 7:00 AM. Transfer from Shakhrisabz to Langar – Kyzyl-Gaza Plateau (140 km, 4-5 hours). Excursion to Tamerlane's cave (6 km, ±300 m, 5-6 hours). Tents.

Travel to the ancient mountain village of Langar and then to the upper reaches of the Igris River, where a winding mountain road, passing picturesque mountain villages, leads us to the Kyzyl-Gaza plateau above the Kola-sai canyon.

Setting up a tent camp on the plateau (2800 m). Lunch.

Descent into the grand Kola-sai canyon and an excursion to the cave, which, according to legend, was inhabited by people during Tamerlane's time. The cave is located at the foot of a vertical 300-meter wall of the colossal Kola-sai River canyon. The cave stretches just over 500 meters and features calcite stalactites, stalagmites, and stalagnates in the most whimsical shapes. The cave is natural and not specially equipped for tourists. A huge corridor leads to three narrow passages where one must crawl. Overcoming these obstacles, tourists enter a vast hall from which a waterfall flows in spring, forming a small lake. Return to the camp on the Kyzyl-Gaza plateau at 2780 m, overnight in tents.

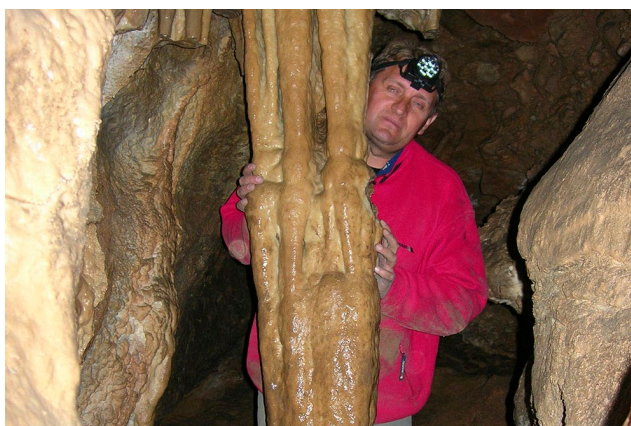
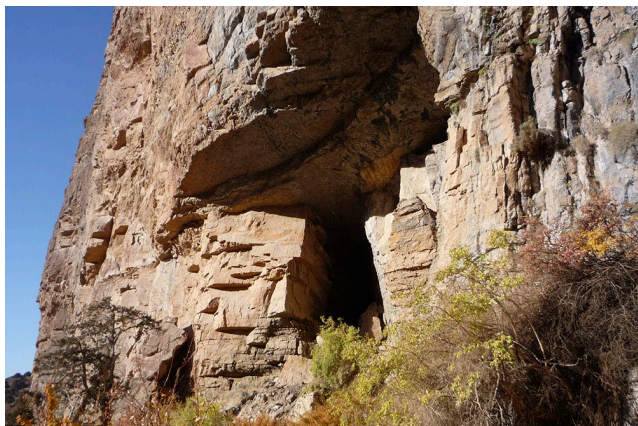
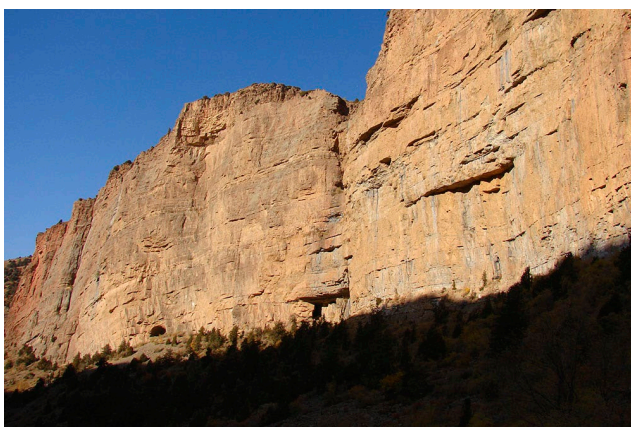
Meals: breakfast/lunch/dinner

Day 3: Transfer from Kyzyl-Gaza Plateau to Shakhrisabz – Tashkent.

Today is a long day returning home.

Early start, ~ 7:00 AM. Transfer from Kyzyl-Gaza Plateau to Shakhrisabz – Tashkent (570 km, 10-11 hours).

Meals: breakfast/lunch/–



Tour Cost (3 days):

Number of People	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cost (\$/person)	1020	1010	820	760	750	690	680	670	620

Included in the tour cost:

- Accommodation in double rooms at a 3-star hotel (in Shakhrisabz)
- Transport – 4WD jeep throughout the tour (3 people in 1 car, including the guide)
- Meals – full board according to the program
- For the active part of the tour: mountain guide, cook (functions performed by the driver), tents for tourists (double occupancy), sleeping mats, sleeping bags, kitchen equipment, gas, utensils, large tent for common use
- Mountain guide (English-speaking)
- Guide-tourist in Shakhrisabz
- Entrance tickets to the main monuments according to the program
- Permits for trekking
- First aid kit

Not included in the tour cost:

- Additional fee for single occupancy in the hotel and tents – \$35/person
- Medical insurance
- Alcoholic beverages
- Any additional expenses
- Tips for the staff

The mountain guide is the leader of the group and the authorized representative of the company on the route. The guide has the right to change the "thread" of the route due to weather or other conditions that threaten the safety of the tourists.

Each participant needs to have: a backpack, warm clothing, comfortable trekking shoes, sneakers, waterproof and windproof outerwear, a spare set of outer clothing for visiting the cave, a flashlight (preferably with a power reserve of at least 6-7 hours), sunscreen, sunglasses, and a head covering (hat, cap, or beanie).

Food: Meals on the trek are prepared by a chef from "Asia Adventures" (assistance from tourists is welcome). For this program, the driver's role is that of the chef.

Information and booking by phone:    : +998947770203