Travel Bliss

DAY TOUR · FROM SAMARKAND INTO TAJIKISTAN



TAJIKISTAN IN A DAY · FANN MOUNTAINS

Seven Lakes Day Tour

A long day from Samarkand across the border to the seven mountain lakes of Haft Kul, with Panjakent and UNESCO-listed Sarazm on the way back.

DURATION	INCLUDES	STARTS	RUNS
7–10 hours	Both vehicles + lunch	Your hotel, Samarkand	All year

THE TOUR

Seven lakes, one long day

Haft Kul means "seven lakes". They form a staircase along the Shing river in the western Fann Mountains of Tajikistan, from about 1,640 m at Mijgon to about 2,400 m at Hazorchashma, and a mountain road runs past all of them.

We pick you up at your hotel in Samarkand at about 08:00 and take you to the Jartepa–Sarazm border. Our team helps you through the procedures, and you continue in a Tajik vehicle with an English- or Russian-speaking driver.

You stop at the lakes for short walks and photos and have lunch at a local guesthouse or lakeside restaurant. On the way back you make a short visit to Panjakent and a photo stop at Sarazm, and you are at your hotel between 18:30 and 19:00.

AT A GLANCE

DURATION
7 to 10 hours

WAYS TO GO
Private tour or group tour

MEETING POINT
Pick-up at your hotel in Samarkand, at about 08:00

LANGUAGE
English- or Russian-speaking driver on the Tajik side

GUIDE
Professional guide on request

PASSPORT
Bring your original passport

HIGHLIGHTS

- The seven lakes of Haft Kul in the Fann Mountains
- Marguzor, the largest and deepest of the lakes
- Hazorchashma, "a thousand springs", at about 2,400 m
- A short visit to Panjakent, the district town
- A photo stop at Sarazm, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Your driver, your pace

A guide is usually not needed in the mountains: a driver who speaks your language can make the trip meaningful. If you would like a professional guide, ask us when you book.

A TYPICAL ROUTE

What you will see

A typical day. Times at the border vary with queues and the season.

1 The border
About an hour from Samarkand. You cross on foot at Jartepa–Sarazm with help from our team, and change to a Tajik vehicle on the other side.

2 Mijgon and Soya
Mijgon is the first and lowest lake, and its colour changes during the day. Soya, "shadow", lies between steep cliffs, with old plane trees on its shore.

3 Gushor, Nofin and Khurdak
The river runs fast below Gushor. Nofin is one of the larger lakes, often emerald green, and Khurdak, "the little one", is the smallest of the seven.

4 Marguzor
The largest and deepest lake, with a village above the water at its southern end and a colour that moves between deep blue and turquoise.

5 Hazorchashma
"A thousand springs", the highest lake, at about 2,400 m. The road ends at its shore.

6 Lunch
A traditional lunch at a local guesthouse or lakeside restaurant.

7 Panjakent
A short sightseeing and orientation stop in the district town.

8 Sarazm
A settlement from the 4th to the 3rd millennium BC and Tajikistan's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. A photo stop on the way to the border.

What to bring

Your original passport, sunglasses, sun cream, a warm layer, shoes with a good grip, and some cash for drinks and souvenirs.

In winter

The tour runs all year, but heavy snow can make the mountain road hard, and it may not be possible to reach all seven lakes.

ROUTE AT A GLANCE

- Your hotel, Samarkand
- Jartepa–Sarazm border
- The Seven Lakes
- Lunch
- Panjakent
- Sarazm
- Back to Samarkand

BEFORE YOU GO

Good to know

INCLUDED

- Hotel pick-up and drop-off in Samarkand
- Both vehicles (Uzbek and Tajik)
- English- or Russian-speaking driver on the Tajik side
- Help at the border
- Lunch
- All road and parking fees

NOT INCLUDED

- Visas, if your nationality needs one
- Personal expenses
- Professional guide (on request)

Do I need a visa? It depends on your nationality. Most European passport holders can visit Tajikistan on a short day trip without a visa. If your passport needs a Tajik visa, or a double-entry visa to come back into Uzbekistan, we tell you in advance and help you prepare.

How long is the tour?

7 to 10 hours. We pick you up at about 08:00 and you are back between 18:30 and 19:00.

How does the border crossing work?

Our Uzbek driver takes you to the border and our team helps you through the procedures. Your Tajik driver waits on the other side, and on the way back it works the same way in reverse.

Is it a private or a group tour?

Both are possible: a private tour only for you and your party, or a group tour with other travellers. You choose when you book.

Can I cancel or change the date?

Cancellation is free up to 24 hours before the tour, and changing the date is free.

Travel Bliss

Book or ask us

Uzbekistan and Tajikistan tour operator based in Samarkand. Private, group and tailor-made journeys since 2016. We reply within 24 hours.

★ 4.9 Tripadvisor · ★ 4.9 Google

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