Travel Bliss

PRIVATE DAY TOUR · FROM SAMARKAND



SAMARKAND → NURATA → AYDARKUL LAKE → YURT CAMP → SAMARKAND

Yurt Camp and Aydarkul Lake in One Day

The sacred spring of Nurata, lunch by Aydarkul Lake, a camel ride and tea in a yurt in the Kyzylkum Desert. Back in Samarkand in the evening.

DURATION	STARTS	ENDS	SEASON
13–14 hours	Samarkand, 7:00 or 8:00	Samarkand, evening	15 March – 15 November

THE TOUR

The desert in one day

A spring, a lake in the desert and a yurt camp in one day from Samarkand, with no night away.

You stop first in Nurata, at the sacred Chashma spring and the fortress ruins. Then the road goes on to Aydarkul Lake for a swim and lunch on the shore. In the afternoon you reach a yurt camp in the Kyzylkum Desert: a camel ride on the dunes and tea in a yurt before the drive back.

AT A GLANCE

PICK-UP
Your Samarkand hotel, 7:00 or 8:00

DROP-OFF
Hotel, train station or airport in Samarkand

DURATION
13–14 hours

TRANSPORT
Private car with driver

GUIDE
Driver only, no guide

HIGHLIGHTS

- Nurata: the sacred Chashma spring and the fortress linked to Alexander the Great
- Lunch by Aydarkul Lake with fish from the lake; swimming in warm months
- A camel ride on the dunes of the Kyzylkum Desert
- Tea in a yurt and the life of the nomads





A TYPICAL DAY

Day plan

Times are for a 7:00 start; with an 8:00 start, everything is about one hour later. Times can change with the road.

1 **7:00 or 8:00 · Samarkand**
Your driver picks you up at your hotel, at the time you choose.

2 **10:00 · Nurata**
The sacred Chashma spring with its pool of sacred fish, and the ruins of the fortress linked to Alexander the Great.

3 **11:30 · Aydarkul Lake**
About 60 km from Nurata. Free time to swim in warm months, take photos and rest.

4 **12:30 · Lunch by the lake**
Fish from the lake and Uzbek dishes.

5 **14:30 · Yurt camp**
A camel ride on the dunes of the Kyzylkum Desert and the life of the nomads.

6 **16:00 · Tea in a yurt**
Tea inside a yurt, and how a yurt is built.

7 **20:30 · Back in Samarkand**
Drop-off at your hotel, the train station or the airport.

What to bring
A hat, sunglasses, sun cream; a swimsuit and a towel if you want to swim.

A long day
Most of the day is on the road, in a private car with your driver.

No night
This tour has no night in the desert. For a night in a yurt, see our 2-day yurt camp tour.

BEFORE YOU GO

Good to know

INCLUDED

- Private car with driver: Samarkand – Nurata – Aydarkul – Samarkand
- Lunch by Aydarkul Lake
- Camel ride (one round)
- Swimming at Aydarkul Lake
- Tea in a yurt
- Bottled water for the road

NOT INCLUDED

- Entrance tickets
- Guide (driver-only tour)
- Dinner
- Alcoholic drinks
- Personal expenses and souvenirs

When does the tour run?

Every day from 15 March to 15 November.

Where does the tour end?

At your hotel, the train station or the airport in Samarkand.

Can I cancel or change the date?

Free cancellation up to 24 hours before the tour. Free date change.

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 12 hours.

★ 4.9 Tripadvisor · ★ 4.9 Google

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