









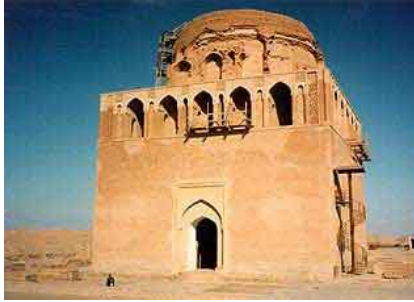










CAUCASUS & THE HEART OF THE GREAT SILK ROAD
TURKMENISTAN - UZBEKISTAN – AZERBAJAN – GEORGIA - ARMENIA
 Duration Tour: 27 days \ 26 nights

Days	Destinations	Itinerary	
DAY 1	Tashkent	<p>Flight to Tashkent by ... This is the capital of Uzbekistan, where the ancient silk routes intersected from Europe, Middle East, India and China.</p> <p>Explore the old town with its Kukeldash, Abdul Kassim and Barak Khana Madrassahs, Amur Timur central square, Broadway and fountains, earthquake monument, Temurid's museum and Fine arts museum, Kafal Shahi mausoleum and Chorsu Bazaar with its silks, herbs and spices. Dinner at local restaurant</p> <p>NIGHT LIFE: Going around city visiting modern bars and, night clubs and getting to know how local youth spend their leisure time.</p>	 
DAY 2	Tashkent - Samarkand	<p>Breakfast at hotel</p> <p>Transfer to Samarkand. Photo stops near second Largest river of Central Asia Sirdarya, local fish market and famous market where the best melons are sold in the whole region Arrival.</p> <p>Accommodation at hotel. Lunch at local restaurant. Free time</p> <p>Dinner at restaurant</p>	
DAY 3	Samarkand	<p>Breakfast at hotel</p> <p>Full day sightseeing tour of Samarkand: Guri Emir- Legendary mausoleum where Amir Temur and all his family buried. Registan square- World famous complex of 3 Madrasahs and golden dome mosque. Mosque Bibi Khanum – The biggest Mosque ever built in Central Asia as gift from wife of Temerlame to her husband.</p>	

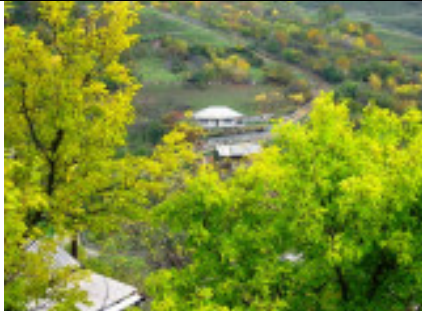
		<p>Lunch at restaurant Siyab local bazaar-unique place where you can get acquainted with the life of Samarkand people. Shahi - Zinda necropolises, a holy place and cemetery with graves of Temured’s dynasty and a grave of cousin of Prophet Muhamed. Observatory of Ulugbek – incredible construction of 15 century for studying astronomy.</p> <p>Dinner at restaurant</p>	 
<p>DAY 4</p>	<p>Samarkand - Shaxrisabz - Bukhara</p>	<p>Breakfast at hotel Transfer to Shaxrisabz The birthplace of Tamerlane, his palace Ak Sarai and Kok Gumbaz mosque, and Mausoleum of Jehangir (Tamerlane's grandson),plus Tamerlane's Mausoleum Lunch at local restaurant</p> <p>Transfer to Bukhara Arrival. Accommodation at hotel. Free time for rest</p> <p>Dinner with national Folklor show and show of national clothes at Nodir Devonbegi madrassah</p>	 
<p>DAY 5</p>	<p>Bukhara</p>	<p>Breakfast at hotel City tour: Visit to Ismael Samani mausoleum (9-10c)-vault of Bukhara rulers' dynasty, Chor-Minor, Chashma-Ayub Mausoleums (14 c), Bukhara local bazaar. Visit to Old Bukhara: Poli-Kalon ensemble including Minaret (12c) , Mosque (15c), functioning Madrassah Miri-Arab (16 c), Amir-Alim-Khan Madrassah (14c), Taqi (trading domes), Kukeldash Madrassah (16c), Lunch at restaurant Lyab-i-Hauz (17c), Nadir Divanbegi (17c), Magoki Attari (16c), Ulug Beg (15c), Abdul Aziz</p>	

		(17c) Madrassahs; Visit to Registan Ensemble, Ark Fortress (16c) and Bolo-Hauz complex (18 c); Dinner at restaurant	
DAY 6	Bukhara-Mary (Turkmenistan)	Breakfast at hotel Drive to Mary through the Kara Kum Desert and the ruins of Merv 385 kms with borders to cross, about 8 hrs duration . Genghis Khan's youngest son sacked Merv in 1221, decapitating the inhabitants despite a peaceful surrender. Merv was one of the greatest of all the ancient Silk Road cities. Overnight in Mary with breakfast.	
DAY 7	Merv – Mary-Ashgabat	-Breakfast at the hotel -Drive to Merv (27km from Mary). Sightseeing includes: Erk Kala (VI century BC), Gyaur Kala (III century BC), Mausoleum of Sultan Sanjar (XII century), Big and Small Kiz Kala (VI-VII century AD) -Drive to Ashgabat – 350 km -Arrive in Ashgabat and overnight at the hotel	
DAY 8	Ashgabat	-Breakfast at the hotel -Visit of Ruhy Mosque – the biggest mosque in Central Asia where 20.000 people can pray at one time and family tomb of the first President of Turkmenistan Saparmyrat Turkmenbashi. -Visit of Nisa – one of the capital cities of Parthian Empire and was residence of Parthian Kings (III BC-IIIAD) -Visit of Ertogrul Gazi Mosque -Visit of Arch of Neutrality -Visit of the Russian bazaar -Overnight at the hotel	
DAY 9	Ashabat – Turkmenboshi	-Breakfast at the hotel -Transfer to Turkmenboshi. Ferry to Baku across Caspian Sea.	

DAY10	Baku	Meeting at the ferry. Transfer to Baku. Meeting by English speaking guide. Transfer to hotel. Accommodation.	
DAY 11	Baku	<p>This Early morning enjoy a walking tour of Baku. Wandering through the old city's delightful winding alleys you will visit the Palace of the Shirvanshahs, the old mosques and the mysterious eight storey Maiden's Tower. VERY INTERESTING WALKING TOUR</p> <p>After early lunch transfer to Krasnaya Sloboda (Quba) and see the synagogue and the wedding palace. Hopefully see some of the village and meet with the local rabbi or town administrator. Travel onto Quba to see the ancient hammam, quick city tour and stop to shop for carpets for which the town is known for. Transfer back to Baku</p>	
DAY 12	Baku - Nakchivan- Baku	<p>Transfer for to airport for flight to Nakchivan at 08:00 , arriving: Visiting: Mumina Xatum mausoleum, Carpet Museum, Mausoleum of Yusif Huseynoglu, Imamzada Mausoleum, Iranian mosque, and Haydar Aliev Museum if open.</p> <p>Include lunch at best Turkish restaurant in town. Transfer to the airport for flight back to Baku at 16:40. Arriving. Accommodation at hotel.</p>	
DAY 13	Baku – Gobustan – Baku	<p>Today head south to Gobustan. On the mountainside and in caves are thousands of rock paintings dating from the early Stone Age (c.10,000 BC). Also see the old oil fields of Bibi Heyat and the bizarre mud volcanoes. In the afternoon quick tour to the Absheron Peninsula, visiting a Zoroastrian fire temple and also take a look at the medieval fortresses and the interesting mosque at Amirjan. Back to Baku</p>	
DAY 14	Baku - Shamakhi- Sheki	<p>Leaving Baku behind, enter the foothills of the Caucasus Mountains. Interesting stops today include the town of Shamakhi GREAT TOMBS FROM THE 17TH CENTURY HERE. and the village of Lahij, with its cobble stone streets, the centre of Azerbaijani handicrafts.</p>	

DAY 15	Sheki - Kish - Sheki	Sheki is a delightful town and today you will discover the palace of the Sheki Khans, the history museum and the house of craftsmen. In the afternoon drive into the countryside and visit Kish THE PALACE OF THE SHEKI KHANS IS ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TRIP. village. Overnight in a converted YUKHARI caravanserai . THE OUTDOOR EATING AREAS ARE BEAUTIFUL. MARKET IN SHEKI EVERYDAY IS INTERESTING. GREAT PHOTO OPPURTUNITIES.	
DAY 16	Sheki – Telavi	Visiting Sunday market (to be adjusted with local guide). Following the spectacular Caucasus Mountain range, cross the Lagodekhi border into Georgia and continue to Telavi located in Georgia's wine growing region.	
DAY 17	Telavi – Tbilisi	The people of Kakheti Province are renowned for their hospitality, good food and wine and while in Telavi visit King Irakli's Palace, Tsinandali - the house of Prince Chavchavadze and enjoy a wine tasting. Also visit Alaverdi Cathedral and Shaumta Monastery before continuing to Georgia's capital Tbilisi.	
DAY 18	Tbilisi	Tbilisi. This morning enjoy a sightseeing tour of the charming Georgian capital including Siony cathedral and Anchiskhati Basilica, the history museum with its fantastic gold treasury and old icons and Narikala Fortress, also visit Jewish synagogue. The afternoon is left free. Visiting a nice hamam for a good massage. (to be adjusted with a local guide)	
DAY 19	Tbilisi – Gudauri	Moving on from Tbilisi it's an exciting drive into the high Caucasus Mountains along the Georgian Military Highway. Visit Mtskheta,WONDERFUL CATHEDRAL HERE. the Fortress of AnanauriBEAUTIFUL ON THE SHORE OF A LAKE., and finally, the town of Kazbegi. You will have a chance to hike. up to Gergeti Church. Return to Gudauri, where you spend the night.	
DAY 20	Gudauri - Gori - Tbilisi	Descending from the Caucasus Mountains, visit the town of Gori, birthplace of Georgia's most infamous son, Joseph Stalin. Still revered by some Georgians, the last surviving statue of Stalin stands in the main square of Gori. Continue to the cave town of Uplistsikhe, and then return to Tbilisi.	

DAY 21	Tbilisi – Dzoraget	<p>Leaving Georgia it's in to the densely forested mountains of Armenia. Visit the monasteries of Haghpat DEFINITELY ONE OF THE BEST MONASTERIES IN ARMENIA. founded in 976, and the monastery of Sanahin IN THIS TOWN, HOME OF THE MIKOYAN FROTHERS, SEE THE MIG THAT ONE OF THE BROTHERS DESIGNED. dating from 966, which are both UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Overnight in Lori Province in a hotel by the rushing Debed River.</p> <p>Dinner at the hotel</p>	
DAY 22	Dzoraget - Haghartsin - Lake Sevan	<p>Today visit Haghartsin Monastery, set in a scenic valley beside a stream. Continue via the spa town of Dilijan to Goshavank Monastery and take an optional hike to Goshalich, a small lake nearby. Lunch at fish restaurant “Ashot Yerkat”. Then drive on to Lake Sevan and visit Sevan Monastery built in 874. Spend the night at a hotel on the shores of the lake with timeto relax.</p>	
DAY 23	Sevan - Selim Caravanserai – Sissian	<p>Today follow the great Silk Road into the Southern Region of Armenia. Visit the atmospheric Selim Caravanserai, an important staging point in the 14th century. Later, Lunch “Sisavan” restaurant visit Glazdor Monastery, the oldest and most famous university in Armenia established in 1282, and then continue to Sissian.</p>	
DAY 24	Sissian – Yerevan	<p>A highlight of any trip to the Southern Region is a visit to Tatev Cathedral, a remarkable architectural complex situated on the top of an almost impregnable plateau. Since the 9th century, Tatev has been recognised as one of the religious and spiritual centres of Armenia. Visit Goris and the Khndzoresk cave settlements before returning to Yerevan</p>	
DAY 25	Yerevan	<p>This morning enjoy a sightseeing tour of Yerevan. Visit the archaeological site of Erebuni, the first capital of Armenia dating back to the 8th century BC, the Matenadaran Manuscripts Museum of ancient manuscripts and the poignant Memorial to the 1915 Armenian Genocide.</p>	
DAY 26	Yerevan	<p>Today visit Echmiadzin, the spiritual heart of the Armenian Church and site of the country's first church, built in 303. In the afternoon, visit the pagan temple of Garni, followed by Geghard Cave Monastery where it is said that the holy lance that pierced the body of Christ was kept.</p>	

DAY 27	Yerevan - Tbilisi	Early transfer to Tbilisi for the flight home. End of service.	
--------	----------------------	---	---

Services included in main tour price:	Services excluded in main tour price:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double / Single accommodation • English guide service • Transport service all over tour by luxury air conditioned car • Portages charge at airports and hotels Tips at the airports and hotels • Picnic and coffee stops • Unlimited Bottle of mineral water • Unlimited Entrance fees to all sightseeing • Folklore shows in Bukhara city • OPTIONAL services for your choice; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tashkent: Tickets for performance in Alisher Navoi Theatre, Visiting Christian churches, Cup of Tea at Tashkent TV tower restaurant Tashkent zoo and botanic garden. Any museums of Tashkent And much more • Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, Tashkent: Decussating of local wines of local factories, all museums, theatres, taking part in national holydays, parties and customs / Traditions. • Visiting Uzbek families, Schools, medical institutions, bazaars, archives of ancient books, libraries and much much more. • Presents from Roxana Tour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airfare due to the program (international and local) • All optional deviations from the main itinerary • Beverages and meals not included in main menu • Photo-and video charges • All personal expenses (extra luggage fee, room service, medical expenses/insurance, etc.) • Trip cancellation / accident insurance • Tips to the guides and drivers