



LEEF JOU REIS

MET GERRIE PRETORIUS



2027 | Silk Road Splendours: Uzbekistan

30 September - 11 October 2027



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A glimpse into my journey

Gerrie Pretorius

*Music was my first love
but travel is my passion.*

To understand the meaning behind “Leef Jou Reis,” one must discover, take detours, and embrace the alternative routes or the roads less travelled. To eat and mingle with the local people and truly comprehend their culture, we have this special opportunity to become authentic travellers, rather than mere tourists visiting a country.

Growing up in the small town of Mossel Bay, I have had the privilege of setting foot on 7 continents and explored over 85 countries. With all this experience and passion for travel, we would like to extend a warm invitation to you to join our global travel family.

We are the “cool kids” of travel and we do it in style...

Welcome to Leef Jou Reis





Silk Road Splendours: Uzbekistan

30 September – 11 October 2027

US\$2 695 per person sharing*

US\$3 190 per single person*

A Journey Through Uzbekistan — Step into a world where the ancient stories of the Silk Road will fill you with wonder.

A place where bustling markets overflow with colour and fragrance, and every stranger greets you like a long-lost friend. Together, we'll trace the legendary route that once connected East and West, following in the footsteps of merchants, scholars and conquerors across some of the most awe-inspiring cities on earth. Lose yourself in ancient bazaars, watch master artisans breathe life into centuries-old crafts, and sit down to meals as generous and heartfelt as the people who prepare them.

Your Silk Road adventure begins here, and we at Leef Jou Reis cannot wait to share it with you.





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Tour Highlights:

Khiva: A perfectly preserved ancient walled city that feels like stepping into a living museum, where centuries of Islamic architecture stand in golden silence under the desert sun.

Bukhara: One of the oldest cities in Central Asia, Bukhara's labyrinthine streets, sacred mausoleums and ancient trading domes whisper stories of merchants, scholars and saints.

Samarkand: The jewel of the Silk Road, Samarkand dazzles with its iconic, blue-tiled monuments and the legacy of the great conqueror Tamerlane.

Tashkent: A vibrant blend of the ancient and the modern, Uzbekistan's cosmopolitan capital offers bustling bazaars, grand Islamic complexes and wide Soviet-era boulevards.



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DAY 1: Thursday, 30 September 2027

Depart Johannesburg

Today 's the day we've all been waiting for as we wing our way to unforgettable Uzbekistan!

(All meals served on board)

DAY 2: Friday, 01 October 2027

Arrival in Urgench | Transfer to Khiva

Your Uzbekistan adventure begins as you drive through the desert plains and fertile river oasis of the Khorezm region to Khiva, one of the most enchanting cities in all Central Asia. Here we step inside the extraordinary Ichan-Kala, Khiva's ancient inner city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Walking through these mud-brick walls is like entering another world - a world of towering, turquoise-tiled minarets, ornate madrasahs and shaded courtyards that have barely changed since medieval times. In the evening, enjoy a delicious welcome dinner at a local restaurant, savouring Khorezm-style cuisine, known for its hearty lamb dishes and freshly baked flatbread.

Overnight Khiva (Dinner)

DAY 3: Saturday, 02 October 2027

Khiva | Ulli Khovli Fortress Excursion

After a leisurely breakfast, we journey to the Ulli Khovli Complex. Exploring this ancient fortress reveals a forgotten chapter of history - the thick earthen walls, the layout of the living quarters and the artefacts within paint a vivid picture of the great Silk Road. The rest of the day is yours to explore at your own leisure. As evening falls, we climb Ak Sheikh Bobo - an ancient watchtower atop the Kunya-Ark citadel - for sweeping views as the sunset turns Khiva's minarets and mosaics to gold.

Dinner is served at a local restaurant before you retire for your final night in this magical city.

Overnight Khiva (Breakfast, Dinner)





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DAY 4: Sunday, 03 October 2027

Khiva to Bukhara | Through the Kyzyl-Kum Desert

Enjoy magnificent landscapes today as you journey from Khiva to Bukhara along the old Silk Road. In ancient times, travelling this same route would take more than a month on camelback. Today, the journey takes around six to seven hours by road. You will travel through the Kyzyl-Kum Desert, otherwise known as “Red Sand”, a vast expanse of sun baked plains dotted with scrub and shifting dunes. A highlight is a photo stop at the Amudarya River, one of the great rivers of the ancient world and a lifeline for the civilisations that flourished along its banks. Indulge in a hearty dinner before settling in for your first night in Bukhara.

Overnight: Bukhara (Breakfast, Dinner)



DAY 5: Monday, 04 October 2027

Bukhara | The Sacred City

Today is another day of discovery as you explore the very heart and soul of Bukhara, one of Central Asia’s holy cities. Our tour includes many highlights with visits to several beautiful madrassahs, minarets, mosques and mausoleums. As the afternoon unfolds, soak up the vibrant atmosphere of the famous Toki Bazaars. Here the domes of the Moneychangers, Cap Makers and Jewellers have plied their trades under these same domes for hundreds of years.

Overnight: Bukhara (Breakfast, Dinner)





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DAY 6: Tuesday, 05 October 2027

Bukhara | Sacred Shrines & Royal Residences

This morning we explore the Bahouddin Nakshbandi Mausoleum and its beautifully preserved neighbouring sepulchres, followed by the ancient Chor-Bakr Necropolis, followed by the ancient Chor-Bakr Necropolis, Bukhara's 'City of the Dead' - a sprawling complex of streets, courtyards, and family burial structures. From there, step into the elegance of Sitorai-Mokhi-Hossa, the summer residence of Bukhara's last ruler. Here you'll find a wonderful collection of Chinese porcelain, sparkling crystal and a colourful display of traditional Suzani embroidery. The afternoon is yours to explore Bukhara's wonderful Dome Bazaars, the perfect place to find a special souvenir or two.

Tonight's highlight is hands-on: roll up your sleeves and join a hands-on Baksh Plov cooking class, Uzbekistan's most iconic dish and a UNESCO-listed cultural tradition. A warm and memorable experience you'll be talking about long after you return home.

Overnight: Bukhara (Breakfast, Dinner)





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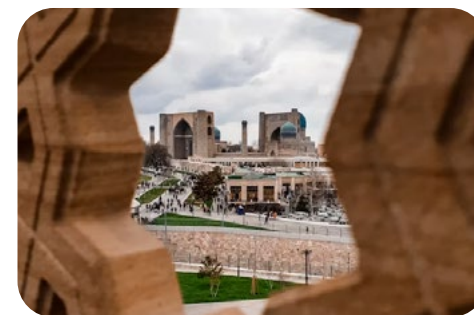
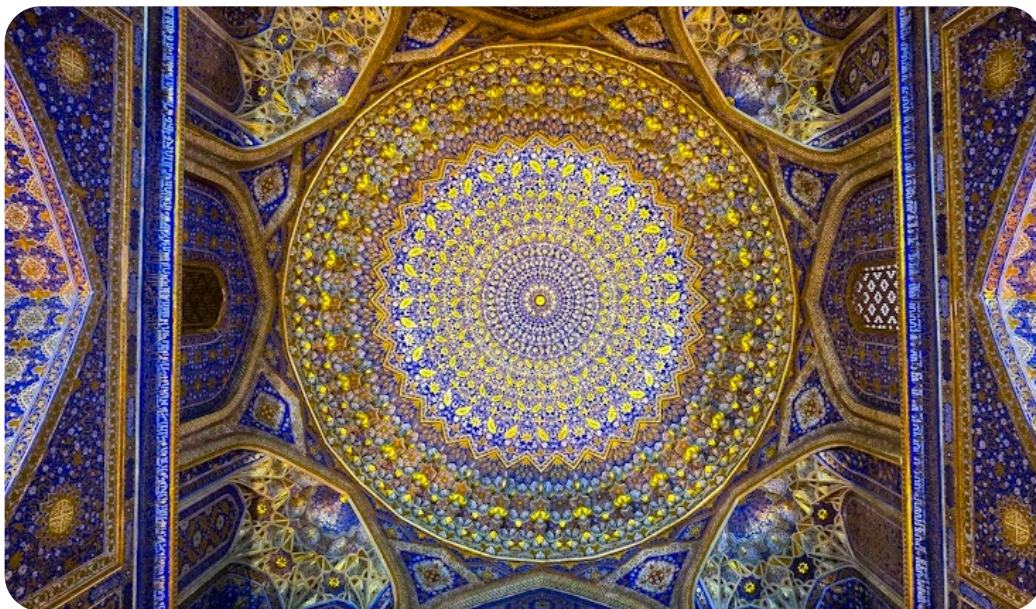
US\$3 190 per single person*

DAY 7: Wednesday, 06 October 2027

Bukhara to Samarkand | via Gijduvan

Today's journey to Samarkand includes a wonderful cultural detour through Gijduvan, a small town that has been a celebrated centre of ceramic arts for centuries. Here, you are welcomed into the home and workshop of master craftsman Olim Narzullaev, whose family has practised the ancient art of Uzbek ceramics for generations. You'll watch a live demonstration of the pottery-making process followed by a cooking class hosted by the family. The ladies will learn the art of baking the traditional Uzbek flatbread baked in a clay tandoor oven, while the men tackle the art of pilaf (plov) cooking. Lunch is shared together as a group before you continue to the city of Samarkand, arriving in the afternoon for check-in and a relaxed dinner.

Overnight: Samarkand (Breakfast, lunch, dinner)



DAY 8: Thursday, 07 October 2027

Samarkand | The Jewel of the Silk Road

Prepare to be swept away as you spend the day exploring the heart of Samarkand, a city that feels like it has stepped straight out of a fairy tale. Visit the magnificent Guri Emir Mausoleum, then catch your first glimpse of the legendary Registan Square, one of the world's most impressive public spaces, framed by three gloriously ornate madrasahs that shimmer in the sunlight. Wander across to the grand Bibi Khanum Mosque before immersing yourself in the vibrant Siyob National Bazaar, where mountains of spices, fresh produce, and colourful crafts awaken every sense. The day ends with a stroll through the beautiful Shakh-i Zinda Necropolis, a winding avenue of dazzling tiled shrines.

Overnight: Samarkand (Breakfast, Dinner)



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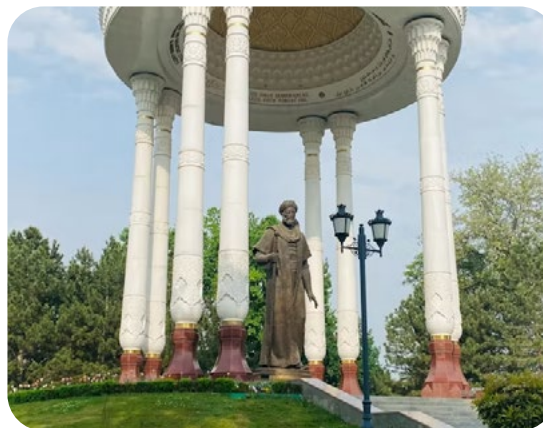
US\$3 190 per single person*

DAY 9: Friday, 08 October 2027

Samarkand to Tashkent | Crafts, Carpets & the High-Speed Train

Watch skilled artisans weave handmade silk carpets right before your eyes this morning at the Hudzhum Carpet Factory -the perfect opportunity to take home a truly one-of-a-kind piece of Uzbekistan. Round off your Samarkand experience with a charming visit to a traditional silk paper workshop, where this delicate craft has been preserved by hand for generations. Prepare for your next adventure as you board a high-speed train to Tashkent.

Overnight: Samarkand (Breakfast, Dinner)



DAY 10: Saturday, 09 October 2027

Tashkent | Ancient Quarters & Modern Boulevards

A morning walk through the old quarter leads you to the Khazrati Imam Complex, Tashkent's spiritual heart with its stunning mosques, madrasahs, and mausoleums. From there onto the irresistible energy of the famous Chorsu Bazaar, one of Central Asia's most vibrant and colourful oriental markets. Next we visit the city's landmarks such as Independence Square, Amir Temur Square and Alisher Navoi Theatre Square. Finally, what better way to bring your Tashkent adventure to a close than with a journey through one of the world's most extraordinary underground networks - the magnificent Tashkent Metro. Built during the Soviet era, each station is a breathtaking work of art, lovingly and individually designed by talented local artists and architects. From soaring ceilings to intricate mosaics and glittering chandeliers, a visit to the Tashkent Metro is a truly unforgettable experience. Our final evening unfolds at a local restaurant, where we indulge in the flavours of Uzbekistan one last time and toast to new friendships.

Overnight: Tashkent (Breakfast, Dinner)



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DAY 11: Sunday, 10 October 2027

Departure from Tashkent

After a final breakfast at the hotel, it is time to bid farewell to Uzbekistan, carrying with you memories of the Silk Road that will last a lifetime.

Until we meet again on the road – ****Xayr!**** (Goodbye in Uzbek)

(All meals served on board)



DAY 12: Monday, 11 October 2027

Arrival in Johannesburg

We arrive back in South Africa with hearts full of memories and stories to share from our amazing journey.



This tour is hosted by an experienced and professional Leef Jou Reis team. A dedicated team member will be available throughout the journey to assist you. While Gerrie's presence cannot be guaranteed due to the company's full annual programme, your comfort and enjoyment are assured by our passionate tour leaders.



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Inclusions:

- 9 nights accommodation
- Breakfast daily
- 1 Lunch
- 9 Dinners
- Plov cooking class
- Airconditioned coach with driver
- Local English-speaking guide from arrival to departure
- All entrance fees to listed sites
- Train tickets Samarkand-Tashkent (economy class)
- Tips
- Leef Jou Reis tour leader

Exclusions

- International airfares
- Domestic fares within South Africa
- Meals not specified in the programme
- Beverages and alcoholic drinks
- Travel insurance (we can assist)
- Visas (we can assist)
- Items of a personal nature

Things to Bear in Mind:

- A visa is compulsory and at your own cost. We will however assist you with all the relevant documentation for the process.
- You require a passport that is valid for 6 months after return (04 April 2028) with two clean pages available.
- A Leef Jou Reis team member will be available throughout the tour to assist with questions and information.
- Optional Extras are available and the Leef Jou Reis team can assist with this. Each tour member, however, is free to come and go freely.
- You are in good hands, so sit back, relax, and enjoy the trip without worries. You can also set your own pace. At Leef Jou Reis we love to walk, but there are alternative options available and sometimes we spontaneously change the route and hire a taxi or shuttle.
- Come with an open mind and be ready to broaden your horizons and make new friends.
- We start a Whatsapp group a few weeks before we leave in which we communicate all important information. Please make sure that you supply your correct cell numbers when you complete your reservation form. This group will also be used to share photos and videos amongst each other during the trip.
- Please note that we reserve the right to amend the program should the need arise so that we can give you an even better chance to experience the trip of a lifetime.
- The program includes Bed and Breakfast and several dinners and lunches and excursions as indicated.



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What Next...?

Steps to follow to secure your seat on the Journey Through Uzbekistan Tour...

STEP 1

If you want to join us on this exciting tour, send your e-mail address and mobile number to leefjoureis@twf.co.za. We will then send the booking form that you must complete and return, together with a copy of your ID/passport and proof of payment of the deposit.

STEP 2

This itinerary is fairly complete and should contain all the information you might need. We will set up a WhatsApp group closer to the time for further communication; therefore, please make sure that the mobile number you have provided is correct. If you have any questions, feel free to send an e-mail or WhatsApp 082 923 3626.

STEP 3

Get excited and look forward to the most idyllic holiday of your life!!

Deposit:

- To secure your place on this very special tour we require a non-refundable deposit of R10 000. Please note that we are obliged to pay the deposit and administration fee to our operators so please familiarise yourselves with the terms and conditions contained on the website.
- The second payment of R 10 000 is required by 23 November 2026 . A further R10 000 is due by 23 May 2027 and the total outstanding amount by 23 July 2027.
- The exchange rate used to calculate the tour price is based on US\$1 = R18, allowing us to cover all costs and any exchange rate fluctuations when making payments to our overseas suppliers. This is determined by the exchange rate applicable to the payment amount on the date the payments are made to our suppliers.
- Prices are based on EFT payments.

Banking Details & Pricing

Account Name	:	LeefJouReis TWF
Bank	:	Standard Bank
Branch Code	:	051001
Account Number	:	012324523

Deposit reference number: UZ27 + NAME & SURNAME

Please make sure you use the right reference number and that you send proof of payment to us on email: leefjoureis@twf.co.za

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LEEF JOU REIS

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