

— VISIT — UZBEKISTAN

2023 • No. 36

The Tashkent Issue

TASHKENT CITY GUIDE

SPECIAL ISSUE IN COLLABORATION
WITH CHARTER EXPAT SERVICES

MEET TASHKENT

Introduction to the
City of Tashkent

DISCOVER TASHKENT

Unique Architecture,
Shopping and More

LIVE IN TASHKENT

District, Housing, and
Restaurant Guide



Situated on an area of 900+ hectares, Amirsoy enjoys one of the most picturesque locations in Tashkent Region. The resort sites on the spurs of the Chatkal Ridge in the western part of the Tien Shan Mountains, just 65 km from Tashkent.

Amirsoy is ambitiously expanding. The resort already boasts 48 alpine-style chalets, a spa complex, three restaurants serving Uzbek and European cuisine, a multi-function service centre, a gondola and chair lifts, and 16 km of pisted runs. There is also a rope park and ice rink, snowmobiles to rent, picnic areas, and a media centre.



The spectacular 2290 Restaurant, Bar, and Terrace is situated on a mountain peak at 2,290m above sea level. It opened in December 2021. The resort continues to expand and will soon have new three- and four-star hotels, plus an aqua park.

Amirsoy's unique atmosphere and first-class service attract visitors year round. Guests have access to a wide range of activities and entertainment, in summer as well as winter, and there's something for everyone, from professional athletes and adventurers, to families and younger travellers.

Get in touch

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FAVOURITE SPOTS WITH OUR SON

One thing we love about living in Tashkent as a family is the city and people are extremely family friendly. Uzbeks love children, and there is no shortage of family friendly activities. Our son loves it whenever we take him on the **metro** (pictured left). At **Dostlik Park** (pictured at top), there is a wonderful paved maze-like path perfect for scootering or biking around. **Central Park** (pictured middle) has a large playground and amusement park for both younger and older kids. Finally, for those with kids three and under, **Rainbow Play Center** (pictured at bottom) is a wonderful place to meet other moms and offers music, art, and play classes for the little ones.



Welcome to Tashkent!

Moving to a new city is like starting a new relationship. If you do not find chemistry in the early days of the relationship, the relationship is not likely to last long. I hope this guide will help you begin your relationship with Tashkent in a positive, confident way. Like any city or relationship, there are obstacles to navigate, but once you have learned to do so, you will find that Tashkent is a wonderful place to live. I know that has been true for me and my family, and I am confident it can be for you too.

When I moved to Tashkent with my family, there was very little information on what to expect. How much should I pay for housing? What are the schools like? Where do I buy things for our home? Local colleagues were helpful in those early days, but I thought, "What if someone collected all of this information and made it available for free online?" That thought eventually led to a full-fledged expat relocation and services business and finally to this collaboration with *Visit Uzbekistan* magazine on a Tashkent city guide.

The guide is an introduction to Tashkent, but the city has much more to offer than we can include in these pages. I encourage you to follow our socials to be alerted of new articles about life in Tashkent. Along the way, you may come across situations that you struggle to handle on your own. Whether this is your initial move to Tashkent or some later circumstance, reach out to us. Do not allow the little differences of life in a new place to get you frustrated and focused on simply surviving your assignment. We want to see you thrive in your life here and come away from your time with memories you will cherish for a lifetime.

Paul Wright

Guest Editor
Founder and Director,
Charter Expat Services
@Charter_Paul

Admission is still open for children 13-18 y.o.



Secondary School

71 209-66-69

 **cis_tashkent**



**Cambridge Assessment
International Education**

Cambridge International School



**AN INTRODUCTION TO
THE CITY OF TASHKENT**

MEET TASHKENT

TEXT BY
PAUL WRIGHT

PHOTOS BY
**MANSUR BELYALOV, DANAT
MINGACHEV, CANONIY, FERUZ
RUSTAMOV & JAVAKHIR
MIRSALIKHOV**



About Tashkent

FAST FACTS

YEAR SETTLED: 3rd Century BC

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: Uzbek (Russian is also widely spoken, especially in business)

CURRENCY: Uzbek som but US dollars also used, especially for larger payments

POPULATION: 2.9 million

AVERAGE HIGH IN JULY: 35.6C (96.1F)

AVERAGE LOW IN JANUARY: 7C (44.6F)

COUNTRY CODE: +998

TIME ZONE: UTC +5

DOMAIN: .uz

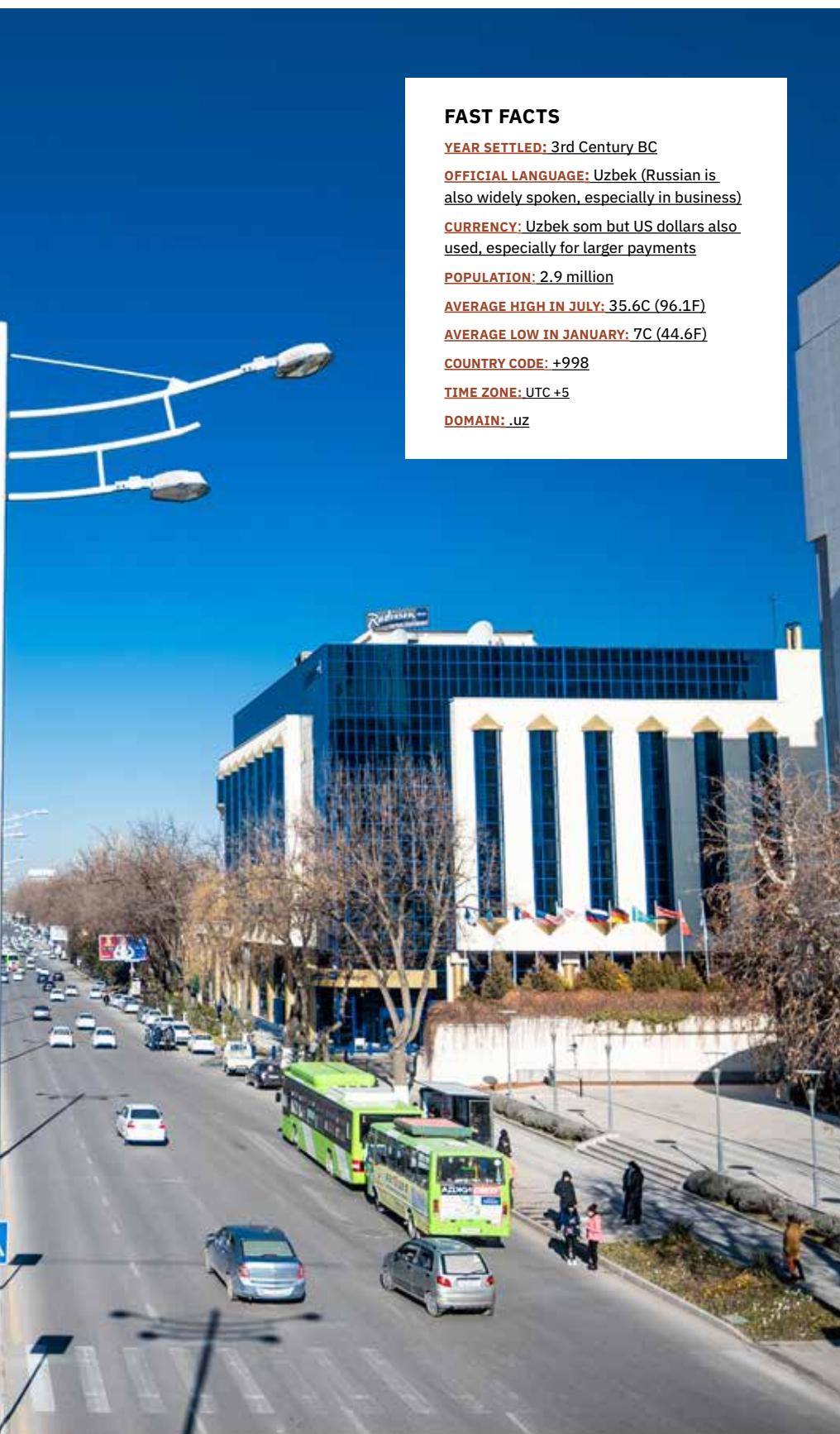
We hope this guide will get you started in the right direction of an exciting new adventure. Our city has a lot to offer, and while this guide can only give you the highlights, we hope you will get out and explore yourself as there are plenty of hidden gems to be found.

History of Tashkent

Tashkent (also known historically as Chach) developed as an oasis on the Chirchik River. While an ancient city with a long history it was not on the main Silk Road trade route and thus never gained the prominence of Khokand, Bukhara or Samarkand. Tashkent's fortunes turned with the arrival of Russians to the region. Tashkent became a trading centre for Russian merchants, and after Russia colonized the region, they made Tashkent the regional capital. The city began to grow rapidly as it benefited from advances in European technology introduced by the Russians. The city's significance accelerated even more during World War II when the Soviets relocated portions of their war-time supply chain to Tashkent so that it would be further from the front lines. In 1966 a massive earthquake destroyed much of the city, but Tashkent made the best of a bad situation and rebuilt a model Soviet city complete with a metro, parks, and wide, tree-lined boulevards. Today, Tashkent is the largest city in Central Asia and has a well-earned reputation as a diverse and cosmopolitan urban centre.

What to expect

Most people expect any country that ends in "stan" to be a difficult place to live. Tashkent breaks from this stereotype and presents a welcoming environment for foreigners. While Tashkent does not have all the conveniences of Europe or North America,





it is very modern and mostly secular. Uzbek is the predominant language, but Russian is also widely spoken in Tashkent. A sizable number of people in the service industry know some English, and you can find English-speaking staff at tourist sites, upscale restaurants, and all the international hotels. Uzbeks are warm hosts and will do their best to make you feel at home. The city is growing rapidly; new developments are emerging in almost every district, and more and more foreign products are becoming available each year.

Transportation

The central areas of Tashkent are quite walkable, and most apartment blocks have a sufficient assortment of amenities nearby. The city is not, unfortunately, very bike friendly though. The roads do not have a bike lane and drivers are not used to sharing the road with bicycles. Recently the city has started widening sidewalks in some parts of town and designating half as a bike lane, but it is still a work in progress.

Tashkent was the first city in Central Asia with a metro. The metro now has four lines and continues to expand each year. Although the metro can be a bit crowded at peak times, it is not nearly as bad as other cities, and is all around a good option if you live near a station. A system of buses and vans fills in the gaps around the metro lines. This option will not be as comfortable, but can be useful in some situations. At any metro station you can buy a metro card that will work for both the metro and buses, but not vans. Any credit or debit card with a chip will work as well. You can also buy one-use paper tickets for each ride.

Most expats take a taxi or buy their own car. Taxis, and almost any car whether it is marked as a taxi or not, can be flagged by hand. You will need to explain where you are going and



FROM TOP

Tashkent is known for its wide streets and tree-lined boulevards, entering the Tashkent metro, the Amir Timur Square covered in snow. Tashkent usually gets a few snowfalls a year.



they may not be interested if it is not the direction they were already going. Many drivers are not originally from Tashkent, so you may need to tell them a landmark near where you want to go and then direct them from there. They may also pick up other passengers along the way. It is important to negotiate the price before getting in the car, and the driver is unlikely to be able to give change for large bills. The easier option is to use a ride-hailing app such as Yandex Go or My Taxi. Both of these apps allow for payment through the app, so you do not have to worry about having the right change. Also, you can put in the exact location you need to go and not have to worry about communicating with the driver.

If you decide to buy a car, check out the guide to buying a used car on our website at charterexpatservices.com. Cars in Tashkent are quite expensive, but it is not too difficult to buy one. A translation of your home country's drivers license is sufficient to drive in Tashkent. Many expats will perceive the local driving style to be more aggressive than their home country. While most traffic rules will be similar to your home country, it is important to know the local traffic rules before you start driving. It is also not unusual to be flagged down by traffic police simply to check your documents.

Education

Tashkent has a wide selection of international schools to choose from with several new institutions opening in the past three years. You can find more information about each school on our website. Sending your children to a local private or public school is also an option. Most local private schools use Russian as the language of education. Local public schools are available in Russian or Uzbek, but the level of education varies widely from school to school. Not many expats choose this option. Public and private preschools and kindergartens are also widely available. ♦



FROM TOP

An aerial view of Tashkent City Park and surrounding area at night, the large roundabout which enricles Amir Timur Square

ARCHITECTURE,
SHOPPING & MORE

DISCOVER TASHKENT





Museum of the History of Uzbekistan. Built in 1970 by architects E. G. Rozanov and V. N. Shestopalov.

SOVIET MODERNIST ARCHITECTURE

Through the prism of Tashkent

Tashkent is an amazing city which attracts tourists and scholars alike with its diverse architecture. The city synthesises several layers of architectural styles from different periods of history. The Soviet style – often called Seismic Modernism – is gaining more and more interest from researchers across the world.

TEXT & PHOTOS BY MUNIS NUR

In the 1970s Tashkent had a population of 1.5 million and was the fourth largest city in the USSR, after Moscow, Leningrad (now St Petersburg) and Kyiv. It was also the largest city in Central Asia. Tashkent helped build the entire Soviet Union, contributing more than 20 design institutes and construction factories.

Several factors influenced the emergence of Modernist architecture in Tashkent. The first was a mighty earthquake in 1966 that completely destroyed the old, traditional Central Asian buildings and left thousands of people homeless. The second factor was the very ideology and creative orientation of the Soviet architecture of that period: “national in form, Communist in content.” The Soviet modernisation of the east, with the help of local architectural traditions, formed the basis of the architectural style of Tashkent Modernism.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
Palace of Arts, Hotel
Uzbekistan, Gulubiye
Kupola

The birth of Modernist architecture in Tashkent began with the **Palace of Arts** or **Panorama Cinema**, built in 1964 by a group of young architects, and completed under the direction of S. M. Sutyagin. The building itself is a combination of polyhedral cylindrical and two-storey rectangular volumes. The walls were made of semi-circular concrete panels in the shape of egg-shell halves, which gave the building earthquake resistance.

One of the city's earliest modernist buildings is the **Golubiye Kupola** (Blue Domes) cafe, built in 1970 on the park boulevard of the same name by the architect V. I. Muratov. Apart from the domes (an expression of the national form), the

deep, open terrace created a traditional method of air conditioning the space and also offered a view of the fountain. Today, the terrace is fully glazed.

Also in 1970, architects E. G. Rozanov and V. N. Shestopalov built the building that now houses the **Museum of the History of Uzbekistan** (formerly the Lenin Museum). Of particular interest is the patterned sun lattice, which refers to the image of a panjara (patterned window lattice) scaled several times over.

Later, in 1974, this technique of abstracting from the traditional ornamented grid was applied to the façade of the **Hotel Uzbekistan** by architects



I. A. Merport, L. I. Ershov and V. S. Roshupkin. The architecture of the hotel is a good example of a combination of European and oriental styles.

The Central Exhibition Hall of the Academy of Arts of Uzbekistan was constructed from 1972 to 1974 according to the design of architects F. Tursunov and R. Khairutdinov. The façades of the exhibition hall are stylised as peshtak (a traditional arched portal). On the folded lobes that form the corrugations, you can see an ornament made of cotton on a background of blue glazed ceramics.

The Tashkent Circus building can also be considered one of the symbols of Soviet Mod-

ernist architecture. Designed in 1976 by architects G. M. Alexandrovich and G. Masyagin and constructed by engineers S. Berkovich and R. Muftakhov, the building resembles an image of a flying saucer – a fine reference to the Soviet advances in space and technology that gave rise to the fashion for modernism.

Another example of Modernist dome architecture in Tashkent is the **Chorsu Bazaar**, with its single large and seven small domes designed by V. Azimov and S. Adylov. Chorsu's unique, 'town-like' design is created by an alternation of covered, open and semi-open spaces with a complex network of galleries, viewing areas, staircases and passages between them. ♦

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
Central Exhibition
Hall, Chorsu Bazaar,
Tashkent Circus

TREASURE HUNT

Tashkent's local brands and original experiences

Tashkent is very vibrant with its artistic designers and talented craftsmen. The Visit Uzbekistan team has curated for you must-visit venues, where you can immerse yourself in authentic local culture, meet creative communities, get inspired and find treasures in fashion, art, home decor and more.

TEXT BY SABINA ODINAEVA AND FATIMA ABDIEVA



AZUCAR MORENO →

Visit the talented designer **Azucar Moreno's** showroom for colourful national fabric outfits. Bright colours, unusual designs and a mix of modern and vintage will fill you with a wonderful mood. **Azucar Moreno** proudly follows the path of sustainable fashion. Each outfit is created using natural fabrics handmade by expert artisans. The showroom has a special atmosphere: fragrant candles, carved wooden windows and old Uzbek paraphernalia. To visit the showroom, we recommend making an appointment in advance.

@azucar_moreno_



← KANISHKA

You can head to **Kanishka** to buy unique accessories, clothes and furnishings. The brand is known for quirky design and natural materials: leather, pure cotton and more. The entire production process is painstakingly handmade. A distinctive feature of **Kanishka** products is bringing its own vision based on the philosophy of beauty in imperfection and Uzbek heritage.

@kanishka_dsgn





← RAKHIMOV CERAMICS STUDIO

To witness the creation of authentic Uzbek ceramics, we recommend a visit to the **Rakhimov Ceramics Studio**. The Rakhimovs are a famous family of Tashkent ceramic masters who have been designing ceramics for seven generations. The studio was created in an authentic Uzbek house in the old city and includes a family workshop, where young children also come to learn ceramics art, and a gallery with a rotating exhibition of collections. Impressive storytelling from Akbar (father) or Alisher (son) Rakhimov will immerse you in the history, symbolism and legends around each artwork, its patterns, and shapes. You can purchase your favourite items. Admission to the studio is by appointment only.

 @rakhimovs_studio



↑ TEPLO STORE

Teplo Store is a relatively new space, home of local brands where you can buy work from designers, artists and artisans. The founder of this concept store, Charos Kamalova, has hosted a pop-up exhibition called Teplo (means warmth) since 2018 in different indoor and outdoor locations of Tashkent. Teplo has helped to discover and grow many big and small local brands starting from handmade candles or jewellery all the way to home decor or fashion. Selected and more established brands from these markets are now presented in Teplo Store, featuring such names as fashion designers *MARU*, *Dildora Kasymova*, *Nadi.uz*, *Tamara Samadova*.

 @teplostore_2022



↑ MADINA KASIMBAEVA

Madina Kasimbaeva is one of the most well-known suzani embroiderers in Uzbekistan, who has made a big contribution to the revival of the Tashkent suzani school and is preparing a new generation of artists in this field. In her studio, also located in old city, spring is always blossoming with her colourful work. A visit to the showroom is not only an opportunity to see luxuriously embroidered silk items, but also to immerse oneself in the craftsmanship and behind-the-scenes life of the large atelier Madina manages. Suzani products include printed tablecloths, curtains, quilts, bedspreads, shawls and women's clothing. Designer items ranging from unique handbags to warmly embroidered coats are available in the showroom as well.

 @suzani_kasimbaeva



↑ MUNIQUE HOME

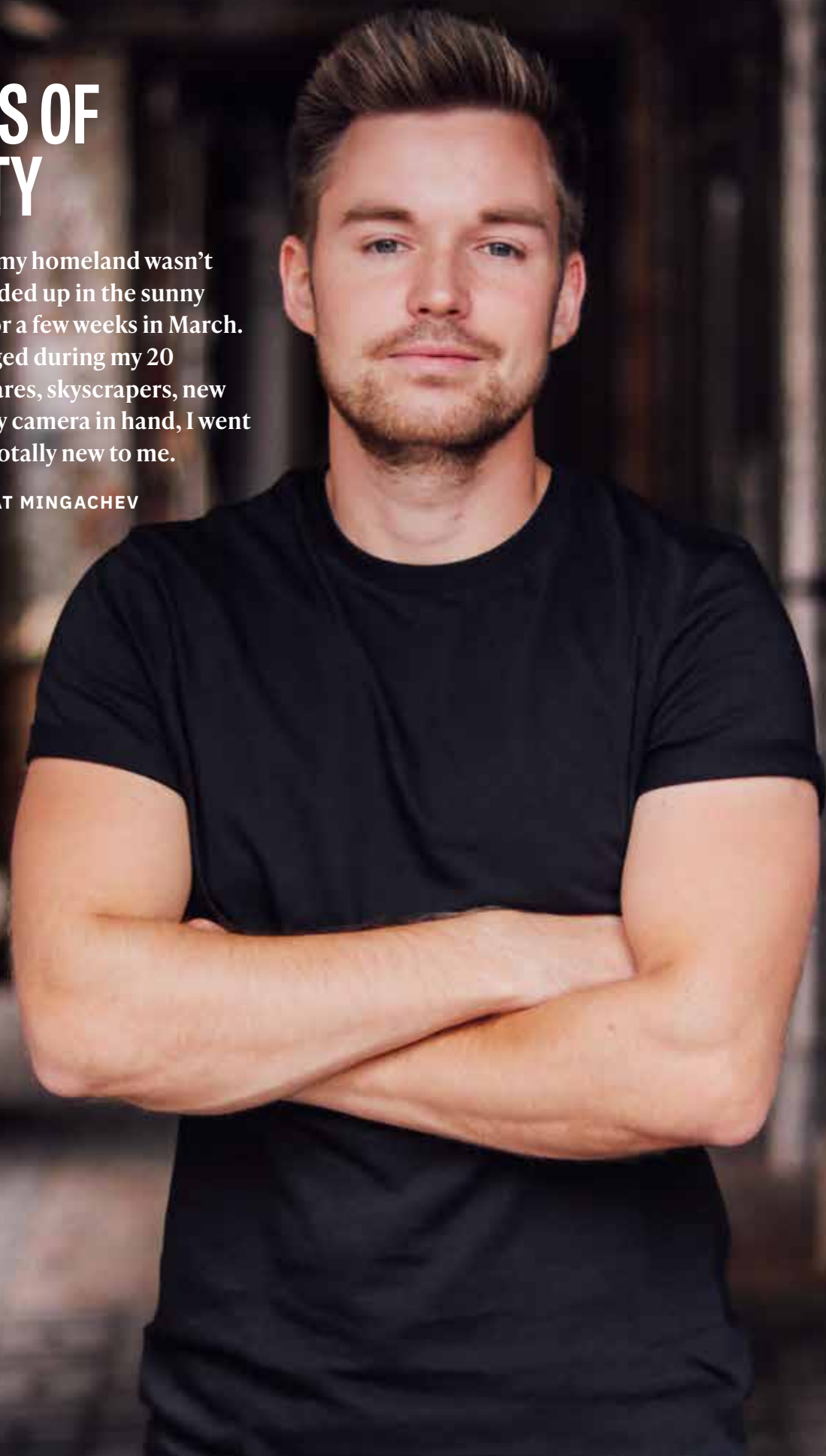
Munique Home is a cosy gallery for fine art, handmade carpets, tableware, designer décor items, exclusive silk scarves, designer clothes and ceramics from various regions of Uzbekistan. Here you can find those very accessories that make your house special, sparkle up your everyday life and give joy to your eyes. Every visitor here finds heartwarming gifts for oneself, and the ones they love.

 @muniquehome

MEMORIES OF A NEW CITY

The story of my trip to my homeland wasn't planned; however, I ended up in the sunny city of my childhood for a few weeks in March. How had the city changed during my 20 years away? Parks, squares, skyscrapers, new developments. With my camera in hand, I went to explore a Tashkent totally new to me.

TEXT & PHOTOS BY DANAT MINGACHEV



I grew up in Tashkent until I was eight years old and left in 2000, and returning, I was curious to see the changes that had taken place during my years of absence. I tried to spend my days immersed in the everyday life of an ordinary Tashkent resident. I went to the cinema, saw the sights, strolled through parks and bazaars and rode the capital's metro. I noticed how much the city's parks have been improved and landscaped. But what hadn't changed were the people and their hospitality and friendliness.

Come along with me on a stroll through the sights of Tashkent through my photos.

Hazrati Imam Ensemble

This complex of madrassas, mosques and museums has been built near the tomb of Hazrati Imam, a scholar, expert in the Koran and Hadith, poet, craftsman, and one of the first preachers of Islam in Tashkent. In addition to the sacred buildings, there is a library of oriental manuscripts and the Quran of Caliph Uthman.

Tashkent TV Tower

The Tashkent TV Tower is one of the most beautiful and tallest television towers in Central Asia. The height of the tower is 375 metres. At night, it shimmers with thousands of lights and mesmerises with its beauty and grandeur.

Near Broadway Street

On one of the days of my trip to Tashkent, it rained heavily. At that time, I was near Amir Timur Square. The city became incredibly romantic and I managed to capture a girl with an umbrella.

FROM TOP
Hazrat Imam Mosque, the
Tashkent TV tower at night,
near Broadway Street





Tashkent Metro

The first metro line in the capital opened in 1977. Today there are 29 stations in Tashkent, each of which has its own unique architectural look: marble and granite trim, rows of columns, colourful bas reliefs and ganch. Each Tashkent metro station is an architectural and artistic masterpiece. Pictured here: Mustaqillik Maydoni station on the Chilonzor Line.



Apartment blocks with mosaics

One stunning architectural feature of Tashkent was created by the Zharsky brothers. Like many other specialists, Nikolai and Pyotr came to rebuild Tashkent in 1966 after a tragic earthquake levelled much of the city. The Zharsky brothers created many original ornamental mosaic panels in a uniquely Soviet Uzbek style. Their patterns decorate the facades of numerous buildings around the capital.

Memorial Complex of the Memory of Repression Victims

Rising 27 metres, this memorial complex devoted to the victims of Stalin's repression consists of eight marble columns topped with a round, turquoise dome. Under the dome, precisely in the middle of the rotunda, there is a memorial tombstone oriented towards Mecca. An inscription in three languages (Arabic, English and Uzbek) is engraved with the words: "The memory of those who died for their fatherland will live forever." ♦



FROM TOP

Mustaqillik Maydoni Metro Station,
Soviet apartment block with
mosaics, Memorial Complex of the
Memory of Victims of Repression

WE HELP EXPATS THRIVE IN TASHKENT

We provide services to cover each step of your journey. We can handle every aspect of your initial move, and any challenges you encounter during your stay.



Relocation services



House & apartment search



House staff search



City orientation tours



Vehicle purchase



And more



National Suzanis in Autograph Art Gallery

TEXT BY DURDONA AZIZOVA



AUTOGRAPH ART GALLERY

1, Ataturk Street,
Tashkent, near the
Academic Russian
Drama Theatre

+998 (71) 203 00 33

+998 (71) 203 00 34

@autograph.uz

Decorative embroidery occupies a special place in the art of Uzbekistan - colourful panels with mesmerising patterns and vibrant shades. Embroidery is the realm of female self-expression, a surprisingly original, not yet fully understood phenomenon of Uzbek national culture. Developed in the form of domestic handicraft, embroidery has become the most striking and expressive achievement of folk art, becoming a truly national symbol.

Nowadays, this classical form of Uzbek embroidery is highly-appreciated all over the world. It is admired for its artistic originality, delicate stitching, and the harmonious use of natural dyes.

Over the centuries, the art of embroidery developed into different schools: Nurata, Bukhara, Samarkand, Urgut, Shakhrisabz, Tashkent and Fergana. Each of the schools has its own characteristics of sewing and original colors. At Autograph Art Gallery you can find examples from all these schools and purchase them for your home. Suzanis form a great artistic taste in people. At

the same time, in addition to the visual qualities, embroidery also has a role to play in rituals and is a carrier of sacred knowledge. Ancient beliefs are encoded in its patterns.

Suzani is the most widespread form of large-format embroidery in Uzbekistan. Such embroidery was once an indispensable part of a bride's dowry: it was used as a bedspread for the newly weds' bed, or as a panel decorating the walls of a room. Special embroidery techniques were used for weddings and passed down through families, representing happiness, prosperity, and fertility.

An embroidered panel is considered not only to be a decoration but also a talisman of a family and their home. The suzani is constructed in such a way that it has a beginning but no end. Since ancient times, the embroiderer has always left a small fragment unfinished. This adds to the deep, philosophical meaning of the artwork, reminding us of the eternity of life and the immortality of the human soul. ♦

Uzbekistan and the Hospitality Business

Uzbekistan is a country with a rich cultural heritage, beautiful architecture and breathtaking nature which attracts tourists from all around the world. For that reason the hospitality and tourism market is one of the most rapidly developing in the country.

Visit Uzbekistan had an interesting conversation with Dilshod Odilov, Founder and CEO of Hotel Pro, the first consultancy agency to serve more than 60 hotels in Uzbekistan, about the hospitality industry.

BY SAMIRA MUKHAMEDOVA

What is the story behind your company?

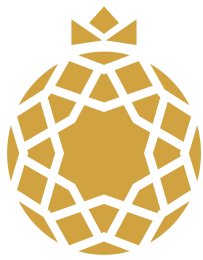
I started my journey in the hospitality industry back in 2006 when I discovered my passion for the hotel business. I was quickly promoted to manager, where I learned all the basics and nuances of the industry. Starting in 2014, I worked as an executive manager in a 4-star hotel that had just entered the Uzbek market, helping with the development of marketing and promotion. Since that project was successful, I received more offers from international hotel chains to work for them.

Soon I realised that more and more international hotels were opening in Uzbekistan and needed the expertise of local management and that is when I first developed the idea of founding a consultancy of my own.

Our projects have been accepted by international brands without any modification. A prime example is Panarams Tashkent Hotel, a member of Radisson Individuals and IntercityHotel by Deutsche Hospitality. During the design of these hotels there was no specific requirement to prepare them for international hotel chains, but we took into account the minimum requirements necessary to obtain four stars hotel, according to the national standards of the



	Republic of Uzbekistan. These buildings were accepted by Radisson and Deutsche Hospitality Group without any changes, which is a compliment to our work.	
Why has the interest of international hotel chains increased in past years?	One of the reasons is that the government of Uzbekistan has created a very supportive environment for hotels to start their business in Uzbekistan. For example, the decree on creating favourable conditions for the further development of hospitality businesses was adopted. That included grant support of 65 million sum for each hotel room from the government for the hotels with 3 stars and above, as well as customs privileges for imported goods. The effect of that subsidy was enormous. Hotels that already witnessed the touristic potential of Uzbekistan could now enter the market with less barriers, which also gave a boost to the domestic market.	What are the main issues in the hospitality market in Uzbekistan you have noticed? One of the main problems faced by the hotel business is personnel issues. Tourists from all around the world visit Uzbekistan and expect high standards of services, which makes it impossible without trained staff members. The solution to this would be improved training facilities, as well as adopting case studies and international experience from foreign specialists. During 2022, we helped our partners receive state subsidies for the construction of the hotels in all six projects, exceeding 26 billion som.
Why is expert consultancy so important in the hospitality market?	Each country has its own standards for assigning stars to hotels, and Uzbekistan's national standards are relatively high. This means it has many aspects and requirements hotel owners need to meet in order to receive the stars. Some projects which have invested millions of US dollars could fail at the beginning due to minor discrepancies; for instance, if the hotel room bathrooms were a couple of square meters smaller than the standard required. In such expensive businesses, it is important to be well informed about local government regulations as well as international standards. When entering the market, every international hotel chain will analyse it carefully, as their reputation is at stake. If for any reason, they will not succeed in a new market, their reputation will be forever damaged. We are working with more than 60 hotels and one of our major areas of expertise is advising hotels entering the Uzbek market with regard to the specialties of the law and tax environment.	How can the hospitality market in Uzbekistan be improved? What is your advice? The hospitality industry is very closely linked with tourism, so any improvement and development made in the tourism sector will positively affect hospitality businesses. From my point of view, it is important to create and promote the national branding of Uzbekistan. That includes using our beautiful national flag or promoting national uniforms for museums and other touristic attractions. For example, in Turkey you can see how they promote their brand so it becomes recognisable for everyone in every country. The other thing is to create one social platform or website, and include all the mesmerising places one can visit in Uzbekistan. This platform can integrate all activities a tourist might be interested to explore in the country and can plan their journey according to their interests.
	Talking about national branding, what are the main characteristics of Uzbekistan that distinguishes it from other countries?	I would like to highlight one big aspect. One unique feature that every person visiting Uzbekistan will notice is Uzbek hospitality. That characteristic is engraved in our culture and its very heart. No matter if you are rich or poor in Uzbekistan you will be welcomed in every household with the same respect and warmth. That feature is very important to deliver in the hospitality business as well. That is the reason why we brought it to Hotel Pro philosophy. As we train our staff, we always mention that they need to see the guests as visiting their homes rather than the hotel. In that way, all the guests will feel welcomed and at home. ♦



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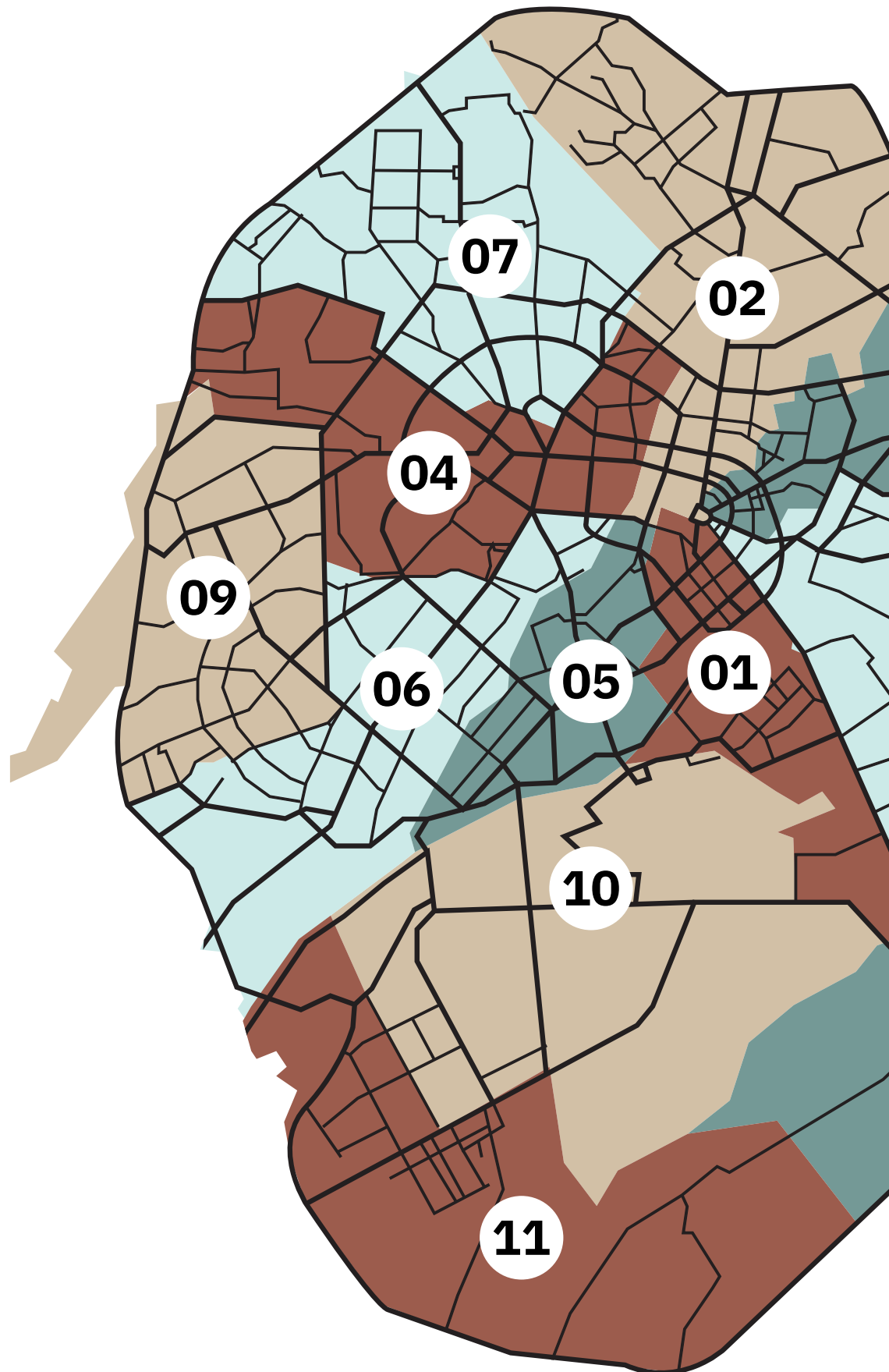


**A GUIDE TO LIFE
IN TASHKENT**

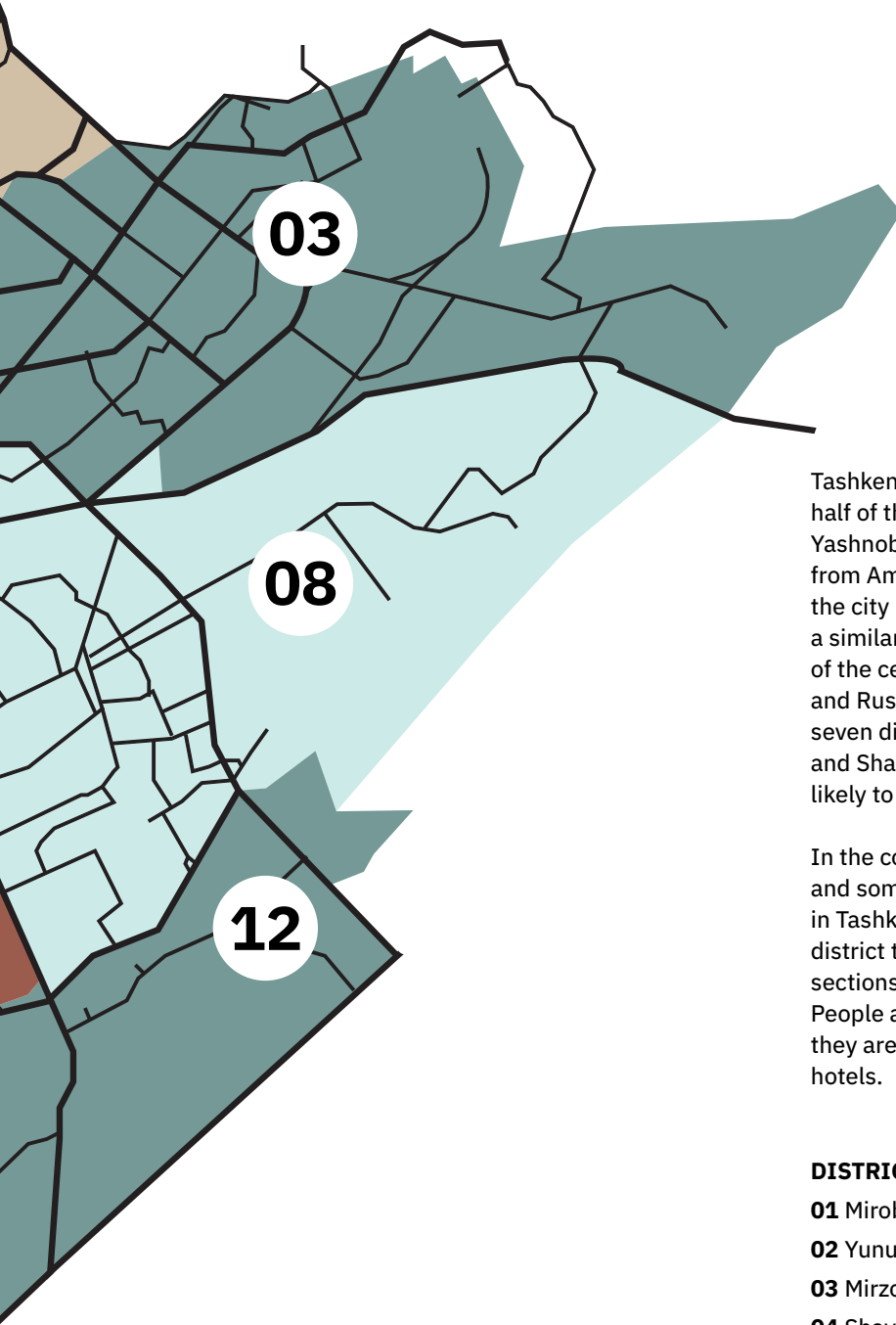
LIVE IN TASHKENT

TEXT BY
PAUL WRIGHT

PHOTOS BY
MANSUR BELYALOV



District Guide



Tashkent City is divided into 12 districts although only half of them are of interest to most foreigners. Mirobod, Yashnobod, Mirzo Ulugbek, and Yunusobod districts extend from Amir Timur Square in the centre towards the edges of the city in opposite directions. Yakkasaroy district follows a similar pattern although it does not quite share a portion of the centre. Overall, the city centre is much more modern and Russified* when compared to outlying areas. The other seven districts are further from the centre with Chilonzor and Shaykhontohur being the only two that expats are likely to frequent.

In the coming pages there is an introduction to each district and some of the things which can be found there. People in Tashkent do not always refer to places based on what district they are in though. The city centre is divided into sections referred to as C-1, C-2, etc. (in Russian ч-1, ч-2). People also frequently refer to places based on landmarks they are near; for example metro stations, bazaars, or large hotels.

DISTRICTS

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 01 Mirobod | 07 Olmazor |
| 02 Yunusobod | 08 Yashnobod |
| 03 Mirzo Ulugbek | 09 Uchtepa |
| 04 Shayxontohur | 10 Sergeli |
| 05 Yakkasaroy | 11 Yangihayot |
| 06 Chilonzor | 12 Bektemir |

*By Russified we refer to people (mostly Uzbeks) who have been educated in Russian and have adopted a more secular, Russian lifestyle.

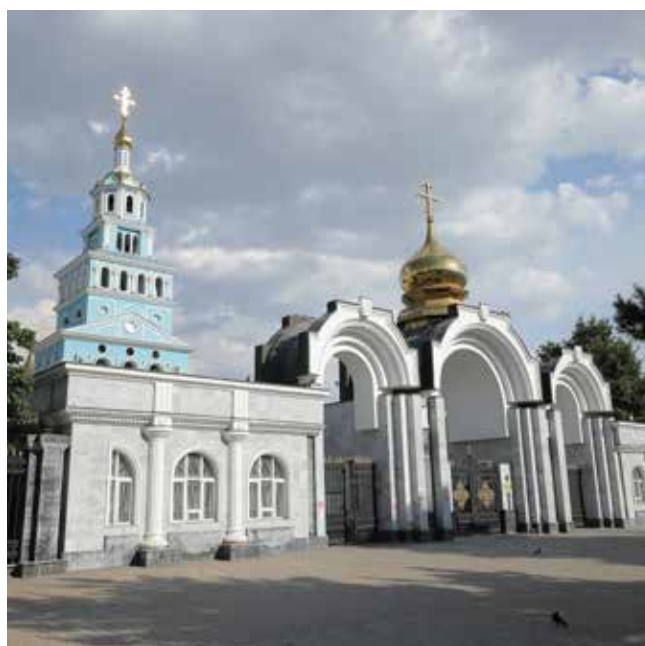


At the major intersection of Amir Timur Street and Islom Karimov Street, looking towards a government building.

The Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin, one of the four Russian Orthodox churches in Tashkent, originally constructed as a small church in the 1870s until it eventually grew to its current size.



Entrance to Mirobod Bazaar, which is a large covered bazaar with produce in the middle and stores lining the perimeter.



Mirobod District

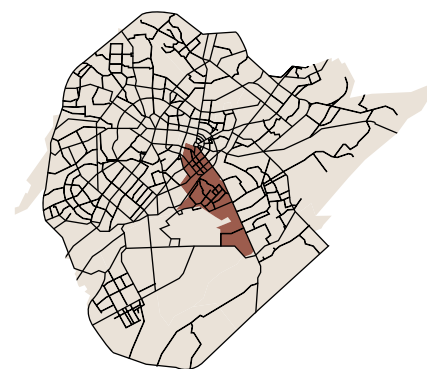
Mirobod is the business district, but has some nice residential areas as well. The district extends from the city centre towards the south. The main train station is in Mirobod, and the airport is close by as well. Tashkent International School and Tashkent International Clinic are both located in Mirobod. This district is popular with expats, especially the area around the Oybek Metro station. Taras Shevchenko Street boasts a prime assortment of cafes, restaurants, and shopping. Many Koreans have settled in the area around Mirobod Bazaar and you can find a nice selection of Asian products at and around the bazaar, including pork. Overall, this area tends to be more Russified.



Tashkent North Railway Station, which includes international and domestic routes.



Walking through a park in Tashkent.



SHOPPING

Mirobod Bazaar
Green Mill Import Store
Edison Import Store

EDUCATION

Westminster International University
Tashkent International School
Tashkent Joy Academy

RESTAURANTS

Urban Food American Restaurant
City Grill
Socials Café
Café Forn Lebnen
Basri Baba Turkish Restaurant
Vohha Brasserie
Merhaba Steak House
L'Opera Italian Restaurant
Caffee'issimo Italian Restaurant
Afsona Uzbek Restaurant
Bamboo Dimsum Restaurant
Bamboo Noodle House
Manna Korean Restaurant
Suwon Korean Restaurant
Tanuki Japanese Restaurant
Toku Pan-asian Restaurant
Turka Saray Turkish Restaurant
Roni Pizza
Tom Yum Bar

CULTURE & RECREATION

The State Museum of Art
Tashkent Polytechnic Museum
Tashkent International Clinic
Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin
Furqat Park
Alisher Navoi Academic Grand Theatre

EMBASSIES

Embassy of Russia
Embassy of South Korea
Embassy of Turkmenistan

OTHER

North Train Station

Mirobod is one of the best-located districts in Tashkent, with a large selection of restaurants, parks, and shopping areas. It is famous for its museums, theatres, and other cultural centres.

**SHOPPING**

Poytaxt Mall
Mega Planet Mall
Oloy Bazaar

RESTAURANTS

Paul French Café
La Cantine Restaurant
Besh Qozon Plov Center
Abi Central Doner
Caffee'issimo Italian Restaurant
Furusato Japanese Restaurant

CULTURE & RECREATION

Museum of State History
Museum of Temurid History
Museum of the Victims of Repression
Alisher Navoi National Library
Amir Temur Square
Broadway Street
Romanov Palace
Tashkent TV Tower
Japanese Garden
Botanical Garden
Tashkent Zoo
Minor Mosque

EMBASSIES

Embassy of Georgia
Embassy of Germany
Embassy of Hungary
Embassy of Poland
Embassy of the United States of America

OTHER

Wyndham Hotel
Hyatt Regency Hotel
International Hotel
Lotte City Hotel Tashkent Palace
Radisson Blu Hotel
City Palace Hotel

Yunosobod is Tashkent's second-largest district in terms of population and area. Tashkent TV Tower is the tallest open-air structure in Central Asia, reaching a height of 375m.

Yunosobod District

Yunosobod District extends north from the centre of Tashkent. The northern two-thirds of the district are primarily residential, and not overly appealing for expats, although you can find some bargains in this area if you are trying to keep costs low. Although multiple districts converge on Amir Timur Square, the square itself and the popular pedestrianised street of Broadway are part of Yunosobod. The Tashkent TV tower and adjoining Japanese Gardens sit in the middle of the district and several museums are found closer to the centre. The Tashkent Botanical Garden and Zoo are in the eastern part of Yunusobod near Mirzo Ulugbek district. This district is serviced by Oloy Bazaar where you can find quite a few imported products. The third of the district closest to city centre is mostly Russified while the other two-thirds tends to be more traditionally Uzbek.



State Museum of the History of the Timurids. It is dedicated to the history of Central Asia during the reign of Amir Timur and the members of the dynasty he founded.



The Amir Timur Square, which includes fountains and green spaces.

→
Complex of The
Museum of Victims of
Political Repression
in Tashkent, located
next to the TV Tower,
and dedicated to the
victims of the Soviet
purges of the 1900s.



↓
Entrance to the
Tashkent Zoo. It
currently houses over
3,000 animals and
600 varieties of birds.



↑
A foot bridge across
the Anhor Canal.



In the early 1980s a complex of four high-rise buildings was constructed on the square named after the poet Hamid Alimjon.



↑
The north entrance to Ecopark, a beautiful park which includes two playgrounds, walking paths, a volleyball court, ping pong tables, two restaurants, and more.



→
Monument to the great Uzbek ruler and astronomer, Mirzo Ulugbek, grandson of Amir Timur.



↑
The north entrance of Central Park, which is located across from Ecopark and includes an amusement park, playgrounds, and food stalls.

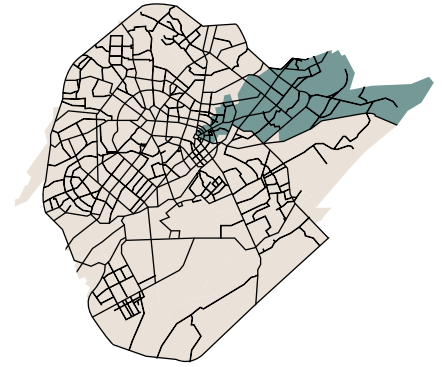
Mirzo Ulugbek District



→
The Presidential School, a specialist state educational institution for gifted students.



Mirzo Ulugbek extends from central Tashkent to the northeast. Mustaqillik Avenue (which becomes Buyuk Ipak Yoli) runs through the centre of the district. Many well-off Uzbeks, embassy families, and other expats live around the Buyuk Ipak Yoli metro station (commonly known in Russian as Maxim Gorky), giving this district a prosperous feel. The district as a whole, but particularly this area, is quite Russified. It is mostly residential with people living in houses, though there are some nice apartments close to the centre. Mirzo Ulugbek is also home to the British, French, and Turkish international schools as well as Westminster and Oxbridge international schools. The area is serviced by Eco Bazaar which has a wide selection of imported goods, and is connected to the Atlas Chimgan Mall. Two of the city's most attractive, Eco Park and Central Park, are located in Mirzo Ulugbek near the center, and the newly opened New Uzbekistan Park is on the outskirts of the district as you are going to the mountains. Speaking of the mountains, Mirzo Ulugbek is the closest district which makes trips to Chorvoq Lake in summer or Amirsoy Ski Resort in winter more accessible.



SHOPPING

Eco Bazaar & Atlas Chimgan Mall
American Grocery Import Store
MunIQUE Home
Kanishka

EDUCATION

University of World Economy and Diplomacy
The British School
The French School
The Turkish School
Oxbridge International School

RESTAURANTS

Franklin's BBQ & Steakhouse
Raaj Kapur Indian Restaurant
Key Town Korean Restaurant
Basri Baba Turkish Restaurant
ShashLeek Restaurant
La Cantine Restaurant
Cay & Simit Turkish Cafe
Hori Japanese Restaurant
Teppanyaki Japanese Restaurant

CULTURE & RECREATION

Eco Park
New Uzbekistan Park
Central Park
More Waterpark
Rainbow Play Center

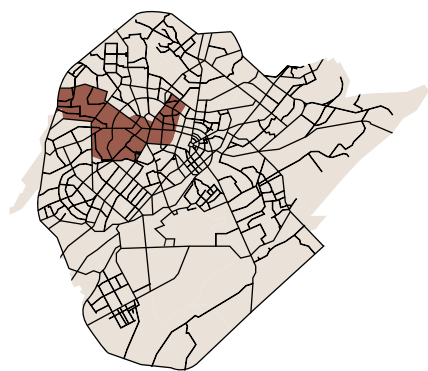
EMBASSIES

Embassy of Czech Republic
Embassy of India
Embassy of Kyrgyzstan
Embassy of Latvia
Embassy of the United Kingdom

OTHER

Darhan Boutique Hotel

Mirzo Ulugbek is known for being one of the nicest districts in Tashkent, and for having the cleanest air. It is famous for the green Ecopark, which has cycle lanes and various recreational spots; as well as the amuseum park in Central Park and a large number of international brands.

**SHOPPING**

Malika Bazaar
Chorsu Bazaar
Samarqand Darvoza Mall
Maison de Gout Import Store
EcoBozor Beruniy
Akbar Rakhimov Ceramics School
Madina Kasymbaeva Workshop

RESTAURANTS

Dayako Restobar
Miramandi Arabian Restaurant
Efendi Turkish Restaurant

CULTURE & RECREATION

Kokaldosh Madrasa
Tashkent Old City
Tashkent City Park
Anhor/Navruz Park
Paxtakor Stadium
The Circus
Hamza Theatre
Ilhom Theatre
State Conservatory

EMBASSIES

Embassy of Afghanistan
Embassy of Kazakhstan
Embassy of Kuwait

OTHER

Hilton Hotel

This district is home to many cultural heritage sites such as the Kukeldash Madrasa, Chorsu Bazaar, the old city, the Suzuk Ota Mausoleum, the Kuhota Mausoleum and others.

Shayxontohur District



Shayxontohur is the most interesting of the districts outside the city centre. Here you can find many traditional elements of Uzbek life such as the Old City, Chorsu Bazaar, the Circus, and Hamza Theatre. It also includes modern attractions such as Tashkent City Park, Anhor Park, and Paxtakor Stadium. As a whole though, Shayxontohur will give you a sense of traditional Uzbek life with a higher percentage of people speaking Uzbek and living in houses built around central courtyards. Not far from the iconic Chorsu Bozor is the new Samarqand Darvoza mall with trendy shops as well as a large Carrefour and Home Market, Uzbekistan's version of Ikea.

The Hilton Hotel overlooking Tashkent City Park, the largest recreational park in Uzbekistan, which has a water show in the evenings.



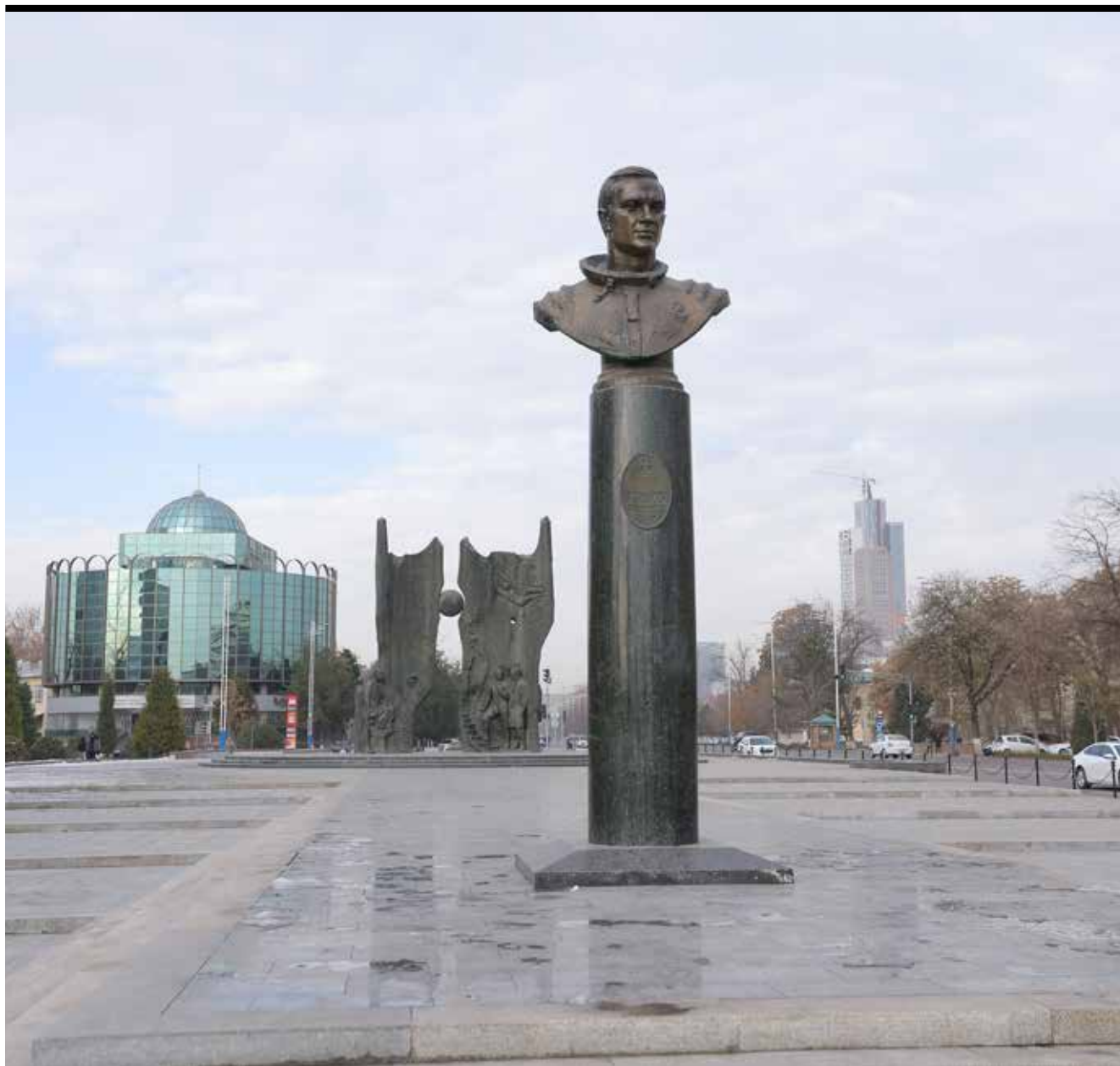
Uzbekistan's tallest ferris wheel, 72m high, is located in the Navruz Ethnographic Park.



←
The children's playground outside Tashkent Circus.



→
The Uzbek National Academic Drama Theatre is one of the oldest theatres in Uzbekistan, founded in 1914.



↑
Cosmonaut Memorial
Square, where a bust
of Uzbek cosmonaut,
Vladimir Dzhanibekov,
is displayed.



→
Tashkent State
University of Uzbek
Language and
Literature named after
Alisher Navoi.



Yakkasaroy District

Yakkasaroy District is southwest of the centre but close enough to be very popular amongst expats. The district is mostly residential with several modern apartment complexes as well as houses. Many expats like to live in this area because it is near the airport, the business district, and other attractions while still being primarily residential. The newly renovated Do'stlik (Friendship) Park marks the center of the district and the main bazaar, Askiya, is a little west of the park. This district has a larger percentage of middle to upper-class households and is consequentially rather Russified.



SHOPPING

Next Mall
Askiya Bazaar
Human House Gallery

RESTAURANTS

Jumanji Restaurant
Gamarjoba Georgian Restaurant
Dayako Korean Chicken
Affresco Italian Restaurant
Caravan Uzbek Restaurant
Yalpiz Uzbek Restaurant
Cay & Simit Turkish Cafe

EDUCATION

Tashkent Ulugbek International School

CULTURE & RECREATION

Museum of Applied Arts
Do'stlik Park

EMBASSIES

Embassy of Algeria
Embassy of Bangladesh
Embassy of Bulgaria
Embassy of Egypt
Embassy of Israel
Embassy of Italy
Embassy of Malaysia
Embassy of Oman
Embassy of Pakistan
Embassy of Palestine
Embassy of Romania
Embassy of Saudi Arabia
Embassy of Slovakia
Embassy of Switzerland
Embassy of Tajikistan

OTHER

South Train Station
Ichan Qala Hotel
Grand Mir Hotel
Courtyard Hotel
Royal Mezbon Hotel
Mercure Hotel

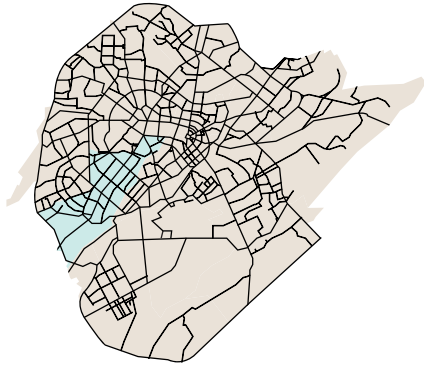


↑
Uzbek National
Puppet Theatre



←
A roundabout near
the Grand Mir Hotel,
a major landmark
in Tashkent for taxi
drivers.

Yakkasaroy is also home to the Oqsaroy Museum, the former official workplace of Uzbekistan's first president, Islam Karimov.

**SHOPPING**

Qatortol Bazaar
American Grocery Import Store
Hippodrome and surrounding bazaars

RESTAURANTS

Humo Restaurant (in Humo Arena)
Loft Cafe

CULTURE & RECREATION

Magic City Park
National Park
Oasis Waterpark
Gafur Gulom Park
Humo Arena
National (Bunyodkor) Stadium
Muqimiy Theatre
Peoples' Friendship Palace

EMBASSIES

Embassy of Azerbaijan

Chilonzor is a predominantly residential area around Alisher Navoi National Park. Here on the lakeside is the Uzbek Parliament, and also a monument to the 15th century poet Alisher Navoi.

Chilonzor District includes Magic City Park, a large shopping complex with an indoor theme park, restaurants, and an aquarium. It is usually pretty busy, but it is next to the National Park where you can enjoy a more peaceful stroll.

Chilonzor District

Chilonzor District is a vibrant area in the southwest of the city. Not as many expats live here, but there is plenty to do. The area is primarily residential and many of the residents have moved to Tashkent from Samarkand, Bukhara, and other regions west of the capital. The National Park is a scenic area to walk around in the evening, and there is also Magic City park, which the whole family will enjoy. Humo Arena is located in Chilonzor and hosts the biggest concerts as well as hockey matches and other events. The national football team plays at Bunyodkor Stadium and there are other football matches there as well. If you are a shopper, Chilonzor has a high concentration of bazaars around the old Hippodrome. These bazaars feature china tableware, home goods, fabric, clothes, furniture, and more. Muqimiy Theatre is the place to go for traditional staged productions. While technically located in Uchtepa District, most people who live in this district also frequent Farxod Bozor. Overall, Chilonzor has lots of interesting things to do, but it is further from the centre and the housing options, while cheaper, are not as nice.



↑
Humo Arena, a multi-purpose sports and entertainment complex and ice rink.

←
Near the Xalqlar Dostligi metro station.

→
The Uzbekistan Bank Association building overlooks Islom Karimov Street, the main street running through the centre of Tashkent.



↑
Literary Alley, located in the National Park, has more than 20 monuments to famous literary figures from Uzbekistan.

→
National Stadium, the second largest football stadium in Tashkent, with a capacity of 34,000 spectators.





The entrance to the Hazrat Imam complex, which includes multiple mosques and madrassas, as well as one of the oldest reported Qurans in the world. The Barak Khan Madrassa, built in the 16th century, is a good place to buy souvenirs.



Modern multi-storey apartments newly built in Tashkent.



The State Museum of Nature



Olmazor District

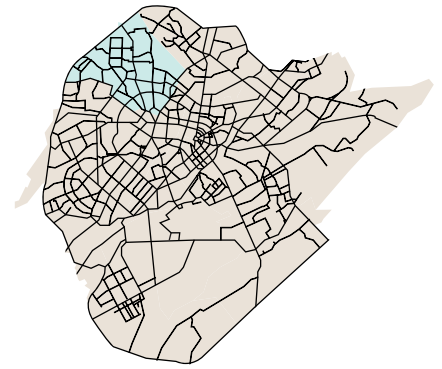


Victory Park Memorial Complex, built to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. A fun area for kids to explore.



A pedestrian bridge across the Anhor Canal, which runs through the city of Tashkent.

Olmazor is a residential district in the northwest corner of the city. It is comprised mostly of Uzbek mahallas (traditional neighbourhoods).. Few expats live in this district, but there are a couple reasons to visit. The Hazrat Imam complex has an old madrassa that now hosts local craftsmen and their wares. There is also a small museum that has one of the world's oldest Qurans and some other manuscripts. Victory Park has a great display of WWII artifacts including Soviet tanks and planes. The Akfa Medline Hospital is one of the best full-service medical options in the city. Along with the hospital, the Riviera Mall, and Cambridge International School may attract more expats to this district in the future. The Riviera Mall is one of the nicest malls in the city and features an ice skating rink on the top floor.



SHOPPING

Riviera Mall
Mudo Concept Home Furnishings Store

RESTAURANTS

Khan Chapan Uzbek Restaurant
Caffee'issimo Italian Restaurant

EDUCATION

National University of Uzbekistan
Cambridge International School

CULTURE & RECREATION

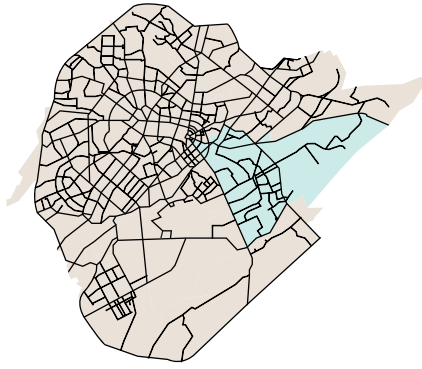
Hazrat Imam Complex
State Museum of Nature
Museum of Victory
Victory Park

OTHER

Akfa Medline Hospital
Inspira-S Hotel

Whilst not a large mall, Riviera Mall is one of the best shopping centres in Tashkent. In addition to the usual brands you will also find English Home, which stocks an attractive selection of homeware; plus Mudo Concept, a Turkish store selling dishes, furniture, and textiles.

Olmazor District is also famous for its impressive blue-tiled Hazrati Imam religious complex. At Victory Park, there are units of military equipment and monuments to heroes along the pathways, which children will enjoy.

**SHOPPING**

Yangiobod Bazaar
Arca Furniture Market

RESTAURANTS

Divan Turkish Restaurant
Peggy's Bar & Grill

EDUCATION

Invento Uzbek International School

CULTURE & RECREATION

Sacred Heart Cathedral
Ashgabat Amusement Park

EMBASSIES

Embassy of Belarus
Embassy of China
Embassy of France
Embassy of Indonesia
Embassy of Iran
Embassy of Japan
Embassy of Turkey
Embassy of Ukraine
Embassy of UAE

OTHER

Hampton Inn
Palace of International Forums

The current building was designed in 1912 by the famous Polish architect Ludwig Panchakevich and many Poles supported its construction, which is why it is known as the Polish Church.

Yashnobod District



← One of Tashkent's oldest mosques, Islom Ota, dates back 300 years.

Yashnobod District shares a slice of the city centre, but other than one small section it is mostly industrial and has few appealing residential options. Since the district is sandwiched between the more popular Mirobod and Mirzo Ulugbek Districts, it is likely to be the focus of more development in the coming years. A unique attraction in Yashnobod is the Yangiobod Bazaar. This bazaar is like a giant flea market where you can find all sorts of antiques and knick-knacks.

New buildings along
Parkent Street.



The Palace of International Forums,
which hosts major cultural events,
including international events.



Ashgabat Amusement
Park, built in
2018 to celebrate
the friendship of
Uzbekistan and
Turkmenistan.



The gothic Cathedral
of the Sacred Church
of Jesus is a Catholic
church, more
commonly known as
the Polish Church.

Uchtepa District



Uchtepa is a residential district on the west side of the city. There are two large wholesale bazaars that draw customers from all over Central Asia, but few expats visit this part of the city.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Farxod Bazaar
Embassy of Jordan



Inside Farxod Bazaar

Sergeli District



Sergeli is a new district in the south-west of the city. The district is mostly industrial and of little interest to expats other than the airport, used car market and a waterpark.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Islam Karimov Tashkent International Airport
Sergeli Used Car Bazaar
Atlantis Waterpark
Husma Hotel



Road to the Tashkent International Airport

Yangihayot District



As the newest district in Tashkent City, Yangihayot is still being developed. It is a mixture of residential and industrial and located in the southwest corner of the city.

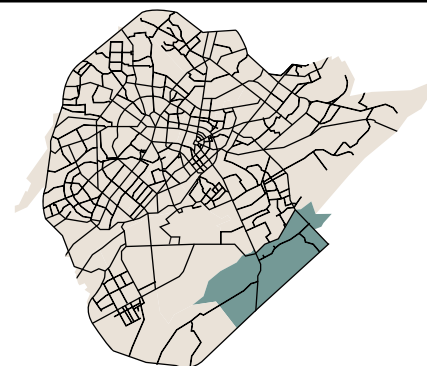
PLACES OF INTEREST

Simma Hotel & Waterpark



A new apartment complex being developed

Bektemir District



Bektemir is another industrial district in the southern part of the city. The only reason most expats venture this far south is for a round of golf at the beautiful Lakeside Golf Course.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Compass Mall

Lakeside Golf Club



Qoyliq Ota Mausoleum, just outside the Compass Mall in the far south of the city.

Housing Guide

The following sections introduce different aspects of the housing market in Tashkent to inform your understanding as you choose a home. Each accommodation is unique and it is always difficult to give general information without misrepresenting some aspect, but the following guide will give you a framework from which to begin your search for the perfect home.

HOUSING AREAS

- 01** City Centre
- 02** Minor
- 03** Darhon
- 04** Maksim Gorky
- 05** Tashkent City Park
- 06** Oybek
- 07** Yusuf Xos Hojib
- 08** Nukus
- 09** Rakat





Type of housing available



There are four main housing options available in Tashkent: **house**, **townhouse**, **modern apartment**, and **Soviet-era apartment**. Houses typically feature a perimeter wall. Layouts vary greatly with some following the traditional pattern of putting the rooms around the perimeter and leaving a courtyard in the middle while others have a stand alone house in the middle. House sizes can range from two-bedroom cottages to sprawling multi-level mansions. Townhouses are new to the Tashkent market and are available in a handful of new developments at a premium price. Recent development projects offer modern apartments with upscale amenities and styling. If you are looking for a new or slightly used apartment with a modern feel, these can be a great option. Bargain hunters should consider older, Soviet-era apartment blocks. Although building exteriors are often unimpressive, the apartments inside come in a surprisingly wide range of interiors. Some offer fresh remodels and modern furnishings, but be prepared to do more hunting to find the right place.



An Uzbek style house in Mirzo Ulugbek. Traditional Uzbek houses usually have a larger outer facing wall and door which then leads into an inner courtyard area. There are often also grapevines or a garden area with fruit trees in the front or inside the courtyard.



A new modern apartment block being built in Yashnobod. While many of the Soviet era apartment blocks are at most, seven to nine storeys, the new apartments are being built much higher. Overall, these will have much nicer and newer furnishings than Soviet era ones, but the prices will reflect that.

Rental contracts



Rental contracts in Tashkent are often simple agreements between the landlord and tenant that are not legally binding. The contract will state the duration of the agreement, the address of the rental, the amount of rent per month, the amounts of any deposits or prepayments, the day payment is due, and the preferred currency (USD or Uzbek So'm). Sometimes these contracts are written down; other times they are verbal.

If a landlord or tenant would like an official, legally binding contract, the document must be registered with the tax office which can be done at ijara.soliq.uz. However, many landlords prefer not to do this as they do not intend to pay taxes on the full amount of the rent. Registering with the tax office only validates the agreed rental payment. If either party would like to make other contractual details legally binding, the document must be officially notarised.

Speaking of other details, we highly recommend contracts spell out other pertinent items such as who is responsible for repairs, upkeep of the yard/pool, and who pays utility charges. Clarifying these responsibilities up front can prevent much frustration later.



A typical Soviet era apartment block with mosaics. While the outside can look a little rundown, landlords will often completely refurnish the inside with very modern style.



A gated townhouse complex where the inner courtyard area is shared. These townhouses are on two levels with a living room, kitchen and bathroom on the first floor and bedrooms on the second floor. Most townhouses also have a small outdoor area that is usually tiled.

Important factors
that influence
housing prices



Like many Asian cities, Tashkent’s housing is frequently mingled. It is not uncommon for a mansion to share a wall with a simple house or to find a 20-storey skysrise next to a five-storey low-income apartment. Even though this guide will highlight popular residential areas for the expat community, keep in mind that prices can vary widely even within a single neighborhood. Beyond location, other factors that influence pricing are the style and quality of remodel. Remodels come in three main styles: Uzbek, European, or High-Tech. Each of these styles can be further differentiated based on the quality of building materials and furnishings used in the remodel. The majority of expats will feel comfortable with either a European or High-Tech style. Other factors affecting pricing are which floor an apartment is on, the availability of a pool or yard with a house, and the amount of prepayment. Landlords will often agree to a discount or other concessions if at least three months of rent is paid in advance.

Rent index



With the previous information in mind, we present our 2023 rent index. We hope this will give you a good starting point for deciding what area of the city is the best fit for you. We have included a range of prices for each option. You will be able to find cheaper or more expensive options in each of these areas, but we have focused the range on housing that is up to the standards that most expats expect without being overly lavish. The Tashkent real estate market is changing by the week, and even showing a range of prices, a one-time snapshot like this cannot keep up with such a volatile market. We hope though that our index will give you an idea of the relative price of different areas of the city compared to each other.



CITY CENTRE

This area includes the zones often referred to as C1-C4 (ч1 - ч4). The centre wraps around Amir Timur Square in a semicircle from Mahtumquli Street to Sharof Rashidov Street between Shahrissabz and Abdulla Qodiriy Streets. This area is exclusively apartments and is popular for its convenience. Not only can you easily get to any part of the city from here, but there is not much reason to leave the centre as everything you might need is a short walk from the apartment.

SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	700 - 1,200
Two Bedroom Apartment	800 - 1,800
Three Bedroom Apartment	1,000 - 2,000



MINOR

Marked by the Minor metro station, this area is just north of the centre and includes the four blocks that meet at the intersection of Amir Timur Shoh Street and Osiyo Street. There is a great selection of stores, restaurants, cafes, and bars along these two streets making the area a hub in itself. Minor is mostly apartments although there are a few houses on the edge of the area.

SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	600 - 1,200
Two Bedroom Apartment	700 - 1,800
Three Bedroom Apartment	800 - 2,000



DARHON

The area around the Hamid Olimjon metro station is referred to as Darhon. It lies north of Central Park and Southeast of Minor. The area is just outside of City Centre yet not as far away as Maksim Gorky. There are a few houses available in this area, but it is more popular for the apartments near the metro.

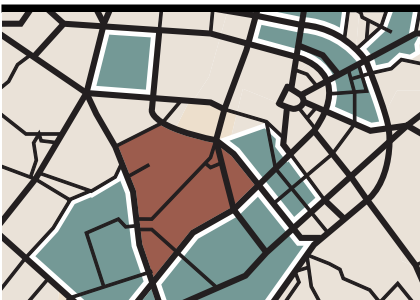
SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	600 - 1,500
Two Bedroom Apartment	800 - 1,800
Three Bedroom Apartment	1,000 - 2,500



MAKSIM GORKY

The area around the Buyuk Ipak Yoli metro station is quite popular with expats, especially embassy families. One of the big draws is the proximity of several international schools. Although there are apartments available, most expats who live in this area do so because of the house options. Most of these houses are located south of Buyuk Ipak Yoli stretching from the intersection with Mirzo Ulugbek Street on the west to Salom Teahouse on the east side and down to Oltintepa Street in the south.

SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	500-900
Two Bedroom Apartment	700-1,000
Three Bedroom Apartment	900-1,300
Three Bedroom House	1,500-3,500
Four Bedroom House	2,000-5,000



YUSUF XOS HOJIB

This area comprises the residential areas along both sides of Yusuf Xos Hojib Street and is encompassed by Bobur, Shota Rustaveli, and Mirobod Streets and the Bo'rijar Canal. There are apartments around the edge of the neighborhood with houses on the interior streets. This is the most popular neighborhood for people who want to live in a house near the centre.

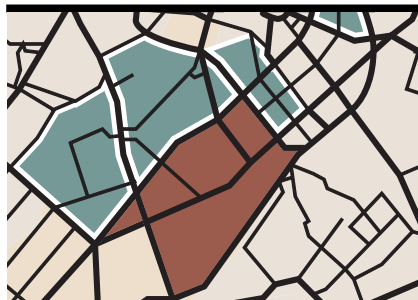
SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	600-1,000
Two Bedroom Apartment	800-1,200
Three Bedroom Apartment	1,000-2,500
Three Bedroom House	1,500-3,000
Four Bedroom House	3,000-5,000



TASHKENT CITY PARK

This new development is partially complete and already has some of the most exclusive housing in the city. Only apartments and townhouses are available and they take up an entire block with a lovely new park in the centre. When the entire development is complete there will be even more amenities, but there is already a nice lineup of restaurants in the area.

SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	1,000-1,800
Two Bedroom Apartment	2,000-3,000
Three Bedroom Apartment	2,200-3,500



NUKUS

Just south of the Yusuf Xos Hojib neighbourhood is a very similar area that runs along Nukus Street from Bobur Street to Mirobod Street and extends from Nukus north to Shota Rustaveli and south to the Small Ring Road. This area is a bit further from the centre and a little more commercial, but still a nice area.

SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	600-1,600
Two Bedroom Apartment	900-2,000
Three Bedroom Apartment	1,000-3,000
Three Bedroom House	1,500-2,500
Four Bedroom House	2,000-4,000



OYBEK

Located at the intersection of Shota Rustaveli and Oybek Streets, the Oybek metro marks the heart of this neighborhood. The area is bordered by Mirobod Street in the west, Taras Shevchenko Street in the east, Nukus Street in the south, and Kosmonavtlar metro station in the north. Only apartments are available in this zone, and residents love the convenient access to restaurants, cafes, and entertainment.

SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	600-1,200
Two Bedroom Apartment	800-1,800
Three Bedroom Apartment	1,000-2,000



RAKAT

On the west side of Do'stlik (Bobur) Park, the Rakat neighbourhood is filled with houses that expats will be interested in. Although it is a little further from the centre than the previous two neighbourhoods, Rakat still has quick access to many parts of the city.

SIZE	COST IN \$USD
One Bedroom Apartment	600-1,200
Two Bedroom Apartment	700-1,800
Three Bedroom Apartment	800-2,000
Three Bedroom House	1,000-3,000
Four Bedroom House	2,500-5,000

Restaurant Guide

The following is a curated list of restaurants in Tashkent. The restaurants featured represent a wide variety of cuisines and locations and were chosen for a combination of their quality of food, atmosphere, service, and other factors such as an English menu, kids play area, or outdoor seating. There are many other wonderful restaurants in the city, but this list will give you a place to start your culinary journey in Tashkent.

Uzbek Cuisine

CARAVAN

\$\$\$ • Live music • Alcohol • Outdoor seating • Highchair • International credit cards accepted

Caravan recreates the more palatable aspects of a caravansary with rustic decorations, live music, and delicious food. Take a bite, close your eyes and imagine you are traveling the Silk Road. During busier times, you may need a reservation.

BESH QOZON

\$ • Highchair • Outdoor seating

At this plov centre you can watch the process of making plov before trying some yourself. There is not much else on the menu, but the plov is amazing!

AFSONA

\$\$ • Highchair • English menu • Outdoor seating • Alcohol • Live music on Fridays • International credit cards accepted

Afsona offers traditional Uzbek food in a more refined environment. The dishes are intentionally less oily and fatty to appeal to western tastes, and the service is excellent. It can be difficult to find a table at lunch.



SHASHLEEK

\$\$ • Outdoor seating • Highchair

Set in Eco Park, this restaurant has a relaxed garden terrace vibe. Meat kebabs are their specialty, but the salads complement it well. They now have locations at Magic City and Amirsoy, as well as food trucks.

KHAN CHAPAN

\$\$\$ • On the canal • Outdoor seating • Highchair • Live music • Dance floor • Traditional décor • Alcohol • International credit cards accepted

Situated on the Qichqiriq Canal, this restaurant looks like an oriental palace. There is seating along the canal in summer and a yurt for winter. Inside the decor is ornate, but not gaudy. There is a dance floor and on weekends an in-house DJ. The food is primarily Uzbek with a few Turkish and European options.

Turkish Cuisine

BASRI BABA

\$\$\$ • Outdoor seating (some locations) • Highchair • Live music (Amir Temur) • English menu (Amir Temur) • International credit cards accepted

Basri Baba has four locations and each of them are elegant. The chefs prepare each dish with care, and sometimes put on demonstrations for the patrons. Their Turkish breakfast is one of the best in the city.

MERHABA STEAK HOUSE

\$\$\$ • Kid's play area • Highchair • English menu • International credit cards accepted

Merhaba is an international Turkish chain with a reputation for excellent service and quality food. With a wide



HUMO

RESTAURANT

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AND CONCERT HALL HUMO ARENA

*Enjoy the pan-Asian cuisine with modern touch
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Afrosiab and Beshyogoch Streets
+998 71 203 66 44

array of steaks, Merhaba has become a destination for meat lovers. The setting matches the quality of food and service with a modern, rustic steakhouse feel.

DIVAN

\$\$ · Outdoor seating · Kids area · Highchair

The high ceilings, discreet music, and well-trained wait staff create a pleasant environment for a business lunch or date while the food is of an equally high standard.

TAKSIM BY TUNCAY CHEF

\$\$ · Outdoor seating

The restaurant is small but cozy, designed with stylish Turkish decor on the walls. The prices are affordable. Definitely try classic Turkish dishes such as “Iskander Kebab:” sliced beef topped with hot tomato sauce over pita bread, “Beyti Sarma” with cheese, and a crispy “Lahmacun”.

ABI CENTRAL DONER

\$ · Outdoor seating

Hailed by Turks as the best doner in town, Abi's is a simple place with a simple menu. There's nothing simple about the doner though. It is rich in flavour!

ÇAY & SIMIT

\$\$ · Outdoor seating · Highchair · International credit cards accepted

While there is no lack of fancy Turkish restaurants in town, sometimes you just want a nice toast or gozleme. Styled after a typical Turkish cafe, Çay & Simit is a comfortable place to grab a quick lunch.

Asian Cuisine

RAAJ KAPUR (INDIAN)

\$\$\$ · English menu · Alcohol · International credit cards accepted

Run by Indians, Raaj Kapur has authentic food and good service. The dining room has a traditional, but older Indian feel to it, but not in a stereotypical way.

BAMBOO NOODLE HOUSE (CHINESE)

\$\$ · Outdoor seating · Alcohol · English menu · Highchair

The best Chinese noodle house in town, Bamboo also has kebabs and a limited dishes menu. Chinese-trained chefs and fast service make this a popular lunch spot for the Chinese expat community.

PANDA (CHINESE)

\$\$\$ · Highchair · Alcohol

Newly opened for Chinese New Year, Panda is a large, well-decorated restaurant that serves authentic Chinese cuisine. The owner and chef are both from Beijing. The restaurant has four floors with multiple seating options including round tables and hot pot.

MIRAMANDI ARABIAN RESTAURANT

\$\$ · English menu · Highchair · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted

Bait al Mandi is now Miramandi and has updated their dining space with a bright comfortable feel. The service is good, and they serve Arabian classics such as hummus, tabbouleh, and mandi. The food is fresh and flavourful.

CAFE FORN LEBNEN (LEBANESE)

\$\$ · English menu · International credit cards accepted

A strong favourite among the expat community, this Lebanese cafe has all the classics. The dining area is relatively small, but they do a robust takeaway business.

HORI (JAPANESE)

\$\$\$ · English menu · International credit cards accepted · Alcohol

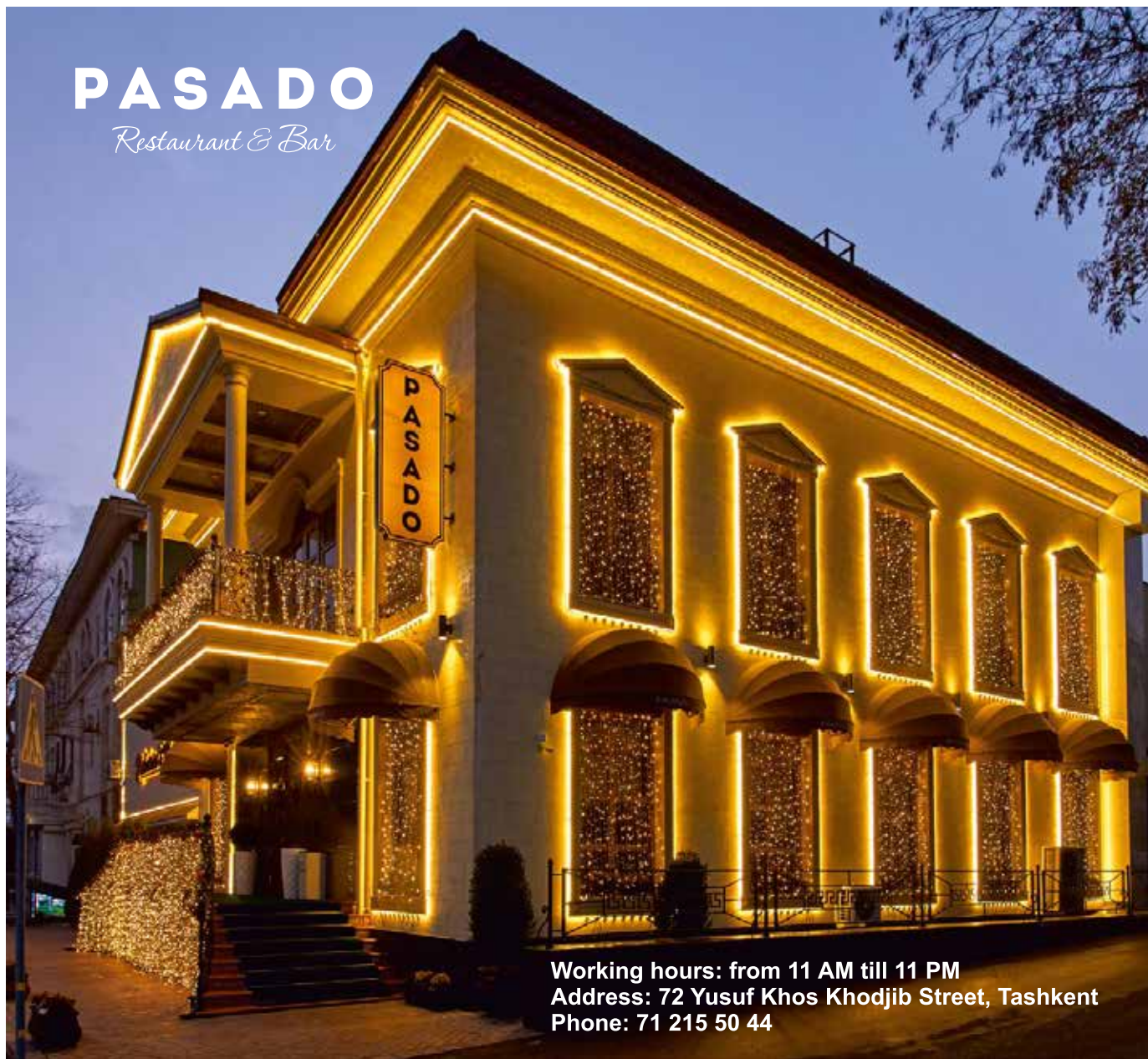
A restaurant well known for its sophisticated cuisine and some of the best sushi in town. It is also a great place to have a business dinner or lunch. Tranquil and relaxing music create a cozy atmosphere. Highly recommend trying chicken foie gras, Peking duck, rolls, sushi, sashimi and ramen soups.

FROM OPPOSITE PAGE
Shashleek Restaurant,
Hori Restaurant



PASADO

Restaurant & Bar



Working hours: from 11 AM till 11 PM
Address: 72 Yusuf Khos Khodjib Street, Tashkent
Phone: 71 215 50 44



FURUSATO (JAPANESE)

\$\$\$ · English menu · Highchair · International credit cards accepted · Alcohol

A Japanese restaurant with a Japanese chef and staff, Fursato is the premier place for Japanese cuisine in Tashkent. The service is outstanding, and the menu is extensive. The decor and branding are on point. Every part of the experience makes you feel like you are in Japan.

KEY TOWN (KOREAN)

\$\$\$ · English menu · International credit cards accepted · Alcohol

A Korean restaurant with an extensive menu of good options, but the main draw to this Korean restaurant over the others is the traditional Korean decor and seating options.



LEFT TO RIGHT
Key Town, Roni Pizza

MANNA (KOREAN)

\$\$\$ · Highchair · English menu · Alcohol · International credit cards accepted

Tashkent has many options for Korean food, but Manna stands out. The dining room is simple, but the food is far from it. It is best to make a reservation even for lunch on a weekday.

DAYAKO RESTOBAR (KOREAN)

\$\$ · Highchair · English menu · Outdoor seating · Alcohol · International credit cards accepted

Originally a Korean chicken restaurant, Dayako now has a swanky location in Tashkent City Park. They still serve the same delicious chicken but other Korean and European items have been added to the menu. Outdoor and rooftop seats provide an amazing view of the watershow in the evenings.

TOM YUM BAR (THAI/PAN-ASIAN)

\$\$\$ · Kid's play area · International credit cards accepted · Summer terrace

Tom Yum Bar is a fast food Thai restaurant which serves the best Tom Yum soups in town. There are many variations available: with seafood, with chicken, vegetarian. You can also enjoy gyoza and Asian salads for the starters.

International Cuisine

FRANKLIN'S (AMERICAN BBQ/TEX-MEX)

\$\$\$ · Kid's play area · Highchair · English menu · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted

American-style barbecue is hard to come by, and Franklin's does a good job of presenting it in an authentic environment. Combine that with steaks, burgers, and Tex-Mex, and you have a little slice of America.

URBAN (AMERICAN)

\$\$ · English menu · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted · Alcohol

A typical American-style burger and pizza place that feels anything, but typical. The modern setting, quality of the food, and service set Urban apart from the many other burger and pizza restaurants in town.

PEGGY'S WILD WEST PUB (STEAK HOUSE/TEX-MEX)

\$\$\$ · Alcohol · Live music · Highchair · English menu · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted

Peggy's is a slice of Americana with old car plates hanging on the wall and a saloon vibe. The menu features BBQ, Tex-Mex, and steaks, and there is plenty of beer to wash it down.

CITY GRILL

\$\$\$ · English Menu · Outdoor seating · Highchair · International credit cards accepted · Alcohol

Set in the heart of the city, this restaurant is a popular lunch spot for businessmen. While the restaurant offers a full range of European cuisine, they set themselves apart with an entire second menu of Mexican dishes. The restaurant will be adding a cigar room in the near future.

CAFFEE'ISSIMO (ITALIAN)

\$\$ · English Menu · Outdoor seating · Kid's play area · Highchair

Caffee'issimo has three locations and offers a wide menu in a casual, comfortable environment. The menu has a nice mixture of light lunch items with full dinner entrees. There are a limited number of desserts and gelato flavours to choose from and an excellent assortment of tea, coffee, and other drinks.



RONI PIZZA NAPOLETANA

\$\$\$ · English menu · Alcohol · International credit cards accepted

The design of the restaurant is very modern with an open kitchen, where you can watch the pizza preparation process. For those looking for wood-fired pizza and high quality toppings, Roni Pizza is one of our favourites.

L'OPERA (ITALIAN)

\$\$\$ · Highchair · English menu · Outdoor seating · Alcohol · Live music · International credit cards accepted

The clean, bright dining room set on the edge of a park makes for a pleasant environment. L'Opera has an extensive seafood menu as well as all the Italian classics, and an impressive wine selection. In the evening a reservation is recommended. They serve Napoli style pizza, bruschetta, salads and authentic Italian cocktails like limocello and Aperol spritz.

JUMANJI

\$\$\$ · Highchair · English menu · Alcohol · Live music · International credit cards accepted

Jumanji is a fusion restaurant that brings the best of Europe and Asia together in one place. The variety on their menu is stunning. The service is good and the environment is comfortable with an outside-in design that creates several different dining spaces to be enjoyed.



PAUL (FRENCH)

\$\$\$ · English menu · Outdoor seating · Alcohol

Paul is a sophisticated French chain that presents European classics in a refined environment. A great choice for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or dessert.

LA CANTINE

\$\$\$ · Outdoor seating · Highchair · English menu · Alcohol · International credit cards accepted

A full service European style cafe, La Cantine has a nice mixture of lunch and dinner items to go with a strong dessert and drink menu.

VOHHA BRASSERIE

\$\$\$ · Highchair · English menu · International credit cards accepted

Vohha is a cozy restaurant with lower lighting and a calm atmosphere. Turkish cuisine makes up the backbone of the menu, but you will find plenty of European and Asian favourites as well as steak. Vohha lives up to the brasserie name with an extensive menu of non-alcoholic drinks, and the coffee and dessert menus are equally impressive.

Whether it is breakfast, a business lunch, or dinner with family, Vohha has you covered.

SOCIALS

\$\$\$ · Outdoor seating · English menu · Kids's play area · Highchair · International credit cards accepted

Socials has a fun interior with several different seating options. The menu features a wide variety of cuisines and all of them are good.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

A variety of delicious pastries available at Paul's, seating area at Socials, the bird's nest salad at Jumanji's, one of our favourites



GAMARJOBA (GEORGIAN)

\$\$ · Highchair · English menu · Outdoor seating · Live music · Alcohol · International credit cards accepted

Gamarjoba has all the Georgian classics as well as bottles of Georgian wine. The setting is very cozy with an upscale, rustic design and low lighting. A nice place to go on a date.

Cafes

BREADLY BAKERY

\$\$\$ · English menu · Kid's play area · Highchair · WiFi · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted

A high-end cafe with three locations, Breadly is an equally good place to get some work done in the afternoon or go on a date in the evening. The cuisine is primarily European and has a nice mixture of lighter lunch items and main courses. The highlight though may be the bakery which churns out an impressive selection of breads, pastries, and desserts.

**BON!**

\$\$ · English menu · Highchair · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted

One of the earliest European style cafes in Tashkent, Bon! now has over a dozen locations. Each one is styled with French decor and pleasant background music. Along with coffee and baked goods, Bon! has a good breakfast and lunch menu.

CAKE LAB

\$\$ · Highchair · English menu · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted

Cake Lab creates a pleasant environment to catch up with friends or meet a colleague. They combine a full bakery with a full European restaurant menu. It is an okay place to get work done, but most people are there to socialise. The food and service are both excellent, and they have seven locations to choose from.

**B&B**

\$\$ · English menu · WiFi · Highchair · Outdoor seating · International credit cards accepted

Beans & Brews is one of the best places in the city for remote workers. The prices are a bit lower than some of the other cafes, and they have WiFi. B&B has a modern industrial look and large tables which make great work spaces. The menu is not extensive, but has a nice selection of breakfast and lunch items. B&B is also open late, and they now have six locations throughout the city.

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP**

seating area inside Bon, coffee and waffles from B&B, delicious pastries from Cake Lab, coffee and dessert from Breadly

SAFIA

Safia is primarily a take away bakery. They have a couple full cafes with seating, but most people know them for their cakes and other sweets. Each shop also has an espresso machine.

CHAYKOF

\$\$ · WiFi

There are a lot of branches of Chaykof across the city and you can choose the nearest location to you. The coffee house offers several types of homemade lemonade, ice tea, fresh juices, fruit smoothies, frappuccinos and a wide range of loose teas. Also classic club sandwich with chicken breast, croissant sandwich with salmon, several types of salads and traditional French quiche.

Recommended Apps

Here is our list of recommended apps that will help make life in Tashkent easier.

COMMUNICATION



Telegram

The primary communication app in Uzbekistan. Locals prefer it over email for communication, even for business purposes. Telegram offers a desktop client that makes it easy to send files. Many companies and organisations use Telegram Channels to put out information. Telegram also has bots that allow you to find information, order food, or even translate.

SHOPPING



Express 24

Primarily food delivery but includes some other stores as well. Largest selection of restaurants.

Bringo

Food delivery. Not as large a selection as Express 24, but often faster delivery.

LeBazar

Grocery delivery from Korzinka. Scheduled or express options. Delivery from a few other stores as well.

Arzon Apteka

App for finding medicine. Type in the medicine you are looking for, and it will tell you the closest pharmacy that has it.

OLX

The online marketplace of Uzbekistan. You can rent a house, hire an accountant, buy a bicycle, and so much more.

iTicket

Almost all venues use this site to sell tickets. You can find concerts, sporting events, theatrical shows, and more.

TRANSPORTATION



Yandex Maps

Good all-around map app that tends to be more accurate and updated than Google. Shows public buses in real time. Reviews are only in Russian, so Google Maps is better for looking up reviews of businesses.

Yandex Go

Ride-hailing app with a nice interface and English customer support. Integrates with Yandex Maps.

My Taxi

Ride-hailing app that does a good job of vetting their drivers, but the interface is not as user friendly.

ATTO.uz

Official public transportation app. Once you have a Metro card, you can link it to the app in order to check your card balance and top up.

PAYMENT



Each of the following Apps is similar. Most banks also have an App with some or all of the following features. Person-to-person transfers, paying utilities, and scan-to-pay.

→PayMe
→Click
→PayNet



qand

Pure Winter. Real Holiday

Qand is handmade chocolate made specially for you. It's made of Uzbek fruits grown and dried under hospitable sun, and premium Belgian chocolate. With warm wishes from Qand.

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2,453 sq.m

Total area for
conference and
social events



725 sq.m

Total area of
5 meeting
rooms



728 sq.m

Banquet hall
Ballroom



6

Conference
rooms

This modern hotel offers 258 spacious rooms of various categories, including Standard and Executive rooms, corner suites and eight Presidential Suites decorated in French, English, Arabic and classic styles. The benefit of staying in Executive and Suite rooms is access to the Executive Lounge, which includes a buffet breakfast, snacks and drinks throughout the day.

The Presidential Suite covers over 250 square metres and includes a living room, dining area and kitchen. All rooms have mesmerising city views. The unique solution of the designers and architects of the project is the modern glass facade of the hotel, through which natural light penetrates into all the interior rooms, which creates a hospitable atmosphere conducive to pleasant relaxation.



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