



Tours to Central Asia 2021 with Chris Aslan Alexander

We're all desperate to get out of our houses and back to seeing the world. I'm hoping in 2021 that will actually be possible. So, with that in mind, here are some of the tours I'm leading...

There are two 12 day tours of Uzbekistan with Steppes, both starting in April, with one ending in May: <https://www.steppestravel.com/group-tours/uzbekistan-carpet-ride-to-khiva/>

Tour size is a maximum of 15 and we stay in fairly nice places, including a 5 star hotel in Tashkent. I make sure we get off the beaten track, as well as seeing all the highlights of Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva. You'll have supper with my wonderful Uzbek family in Khiva and see the silk carpet workshop that I started.

I'm then leading a 5 -stan tour in May, of all 5 former Soviet Central Asian countries, also with Steppes. It'll be a whistle-stop tour, and a great overview of the region, taking in vastly differing landscapes from soaring mountains and Alpine lakes, through to desert, yurts, to fabled Silk Road cities. <https://www.steppestravel.com/group-tours/central-asia-group-tour-five-stans/>

More travel than holiday, but with some internal flights thrown in that will help us get around in relative comfort. Again, maximum of 15 in a group, and most places we stay are pretty comfortable.

In late August, heading into September, I'm leading a tour with Wild Frontiers that I'm particularly excited about. It'll be pretty intrepid. We start in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and follow the Pamir Highway up through my former home, Khorog and into the high Pamirs, where there are no trees,

just yaks and yurts, and then into Kyrgyzstan, down to Kashgar, in China and along the Karakorum Highway into Pakistan.

https://www.wildfrontierstravel.com/en_GB/destination/tajikistan/group-tours/master/2000327/majestic-mountains-of-central-asia

Again, the group size is relatively small, accommodation will be more basic, and this trip is really for those who prioritise adventure over comfort. I haven't been to Northern Pakistan since I was a student and I think it might just be the most beautiful place on earth. Let them know that I recommended you, and you'll get £50 discount.

Hope you enjoy the vicarious travel as you check out these itineraries, and really, really hoping that the tours can actually happen in 2021!

Chris Aslan Alexander