**Tashkent**

The main city of Uzbekistan is a huge metropolis with a population of over 3 million people. The city is lined with a grid of straight and wide streets and avenues, decorated with emerald green parks, gardens, fountains imbued with crystal strands...

This wonderful city is a real embodiment of the modern elegance that is inherent in many world capitals. At the same time it remains to be an oriental city. Tashkent has its own unique flavor. It combines medieval buildings as if descended from the pages of old oriental tales, elegant European architecture from the  period of the Turkestan governor-generalship, standard concrete "boxes" of the Soviet era and, finally, glittering skyscrapers of glass and concrete (modern business centers and banks).

Below we describe the major sights of Tashkent, which each tourist should visit.

**The Tallest Tower in Central Asia**

The TV Tower is the highest construction in the Central Asia. It has an overall height of 375 meters. Its construction began in 1979 and was completed in 1981.

Lobby is decorated with mosaic panel in Florentine and Roman style, which was created by master A. Buharbaev.

There is a Blue hall at a height of 150 meters. Each hall is intended for 60 seats. Platform with seats in both restaurants revolve on the trunk of the tower.   
Restaurants serve Uzbek as well as European cuisine. Bars of the restaurants have a wide range of drinks.

# Roman Catholic Church in Tashkent

The Catholic Church of Holy Jesus is known as one of most beautiful and distinguished for the East architectural buildings of modern Tashkent. The construction of the church was completed in 2000, that is 88 years later from the moment of lying of the first foundation stone.

It should be noted that decor and interior of the church are very impressive. The church was build in Gothic style, its building interior is lined with marble and granite, its furniture and doors made of fine wood. The candleholders, candlesticks, arty-crafty fence and banisters etc, were made by Blacksmith V. Pilipyuk.

Rows of massive wooden benches for the congregation stood in spaces between the huge columns. There is a 26-voiced organ – a gift from the Bonn Parish of St. Paul under the church domes. The hall is decorated with pictures of scenes from the Bible, colored leaded lights and Catholic symbolic. To the right of the altar there is a confessional where the Catholic may have the sacrament of confession. The masses in the Tashkent Catholic Church are held regularly in 4 languages – Russian, English, Korean and Polish.

# Tashkent Metro

Today Tashkent is the modern capital of Uzbekistan, which practically has not preserved ancient landmarks as opposed to Samarkand, Khiva and Bukhara. But it has its own sights. One of them is the Tashkent Metro, the first underground transport in Central Asia.

Each station has its own unique architectural features: marble, granite, glass, smalt, art ceramics, carved alabaster, ganch and other decorations. Lighting is also interesting and amazing: in some stations it creates the atmosphere of holiday ballroom, in others it makes you feel in mysterious catacombs. Each station is the separate place of interest.

It is important to keep in mind that the Tashkent Metro is a strategically important object, and so more attention is paid to matters of safety. As such, until June 1st, 2018, photography and filming were banned in the Metro. Now, anyone who wishes can take pictures in the Tashkent Metro. And the last, the air-conditioning system of metro always protect passengers from summer heat and winter cold. So this underground travel will give you enjoyment.

## The central square of Tashkent - Mustakillik

Independence Square is located in the center of Tashkent city. It is a favorite resting place for the Tashkent residents. The fact that the most beautiful fountains of the city are located in the square contributed considerably to it.

In the Soviet time the square was re-named for Lenin Square. A monument to Lenin was erected in the center of it. And construction of fountains and development of the square itself began at this period. Upon declaration of independence in 1991 Lenin Square was re-named to Independence Square (Mustakillik Maydoni) (1992). The monument to Lenin was dismantled and an Independence Monument in a form of a globe with Uzbekistan’s borders outlined on it was installed instead.

Today the Independence Square is a place to hold solemn events on festive days, such as Uzbekistan Independence Day (1 September) and New Year (1 January). All the Tashkent residents visit Independence Square on festive days, since this is the place to hold performances of musicians, clowns and rope-dancers. By New Year a President New Year tree is installed there.

# Chorsu Bazaar

Bazaar is the heart of every oriental city, the center of public life, breadwinner of the whole city. Since the dawn of time bazaars appeared on the intersections of trade roads, on big squares of cities. They played role of main places of the city, where merchants, traders and common people gathered to discuss important news, to know prices, to have a rest in cozy choykhana (Uzbek café) eating pilaf and drinking green tea.

Tashkent Bazaar Chorsu, the age of which is more than hundred years, also was always located on the main square of the city Eski-Juva.

Old bazaar constructions destroyed and went bad, but the traditional architecture remained unchanged – domed large premises. This was the only way to protect oneself from heat and dust in terms of hot and dry Asian climate. On counters of this oriental Bazaar you will find fresh fruits, amber-colored dried fruits, toasted bread (lepeshka), fresh-killed meat, kazy (horse meat sausage), and what not… And all these things are so attractive that one can’t stand to pass by them.