

Organization of Safari Tours in the Regions of Uzbekistan

Orokova M. O

SamIES - Master's degree student group MTF1-123

Amriddinova R. S, Ph.D

SamIES, —Lecturer of the Department of Tourism, associate professor

ABSTRACT

Safari tourism is a type of tourism that involves traveling through the wild with the aim of observing wild animals in their natural habitat. Safaris are usually held in national parks and reserves, where you can see a variety of animals. Safari tourism is popular among nature and animal lovers, as well as photographers and travelers. This is a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the world of wildlife and see animals in their natural environment. This article discusses the possibility of organizing safari tours in Uzbekistan.

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 15 Mar 2024

Received in revised form

15 Apr 2024

Accepted 16 May 2024

Keywords: Uzbekistan, safari tour, Samarkand, Bukhara, Nurata, Yurt camp in Aydarkul.

Hosting by Innovatus Publishing Co. All rights reserved. © 2024

When you hear the word “Safari,” you immediately imagine an exciting hunt for wild animals in the savannahs of Africa. This is exactly what happened before, in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Nowadays, a safari is an exciting journey to observe wild animals in their natural habitat - national parks and reserves in Africa.

A safari is a kind of exciting journey that evokes a lot of positive emotions, there is no doubt about it. Do not assume that the tour has anything in common with hunting. Safari involves exclusively peaceful observation of animals.

You can go on a safari on your own. To do this, you just need to rent a car and hit the road. However, it is still better to give preference to organized tours. They are safer and more interesting.

Specialists develop routes that are optimal in terms of intensity, so that the trip is exciting and educational. During safari tours, you can thoroughly enjoy observing exotic animals, natural beauty and local landscapes. Tours may vary in length. Some are calmer, while others contain a certain amount of extreme. Safaris can involve only a slight deepening into the local nature or a more serious and lengthier one.

Safari tours are also individual. In this case, the route is developed taking into account personal needs and wishes. It can be adjusted during the process. It is very important that the guide is experienced. It will help you respond to unusual situations in a timely manner and maximize comfort. There are also safaris that involve hunting. However, such events require special licenses.

Safari tours may involve the use of a variety of transport. These could be SUVs, ATVs or even camels.

Safari tours in Uzbekistan offer a unique opportunity to get acquainted with the rich fauna and flora of this amazing country. During the safari, you can see various animals such as gazelles, caracals, leopards, as well as various species of birds.

Some of the popular destinations for safari tours in Uzbekistan include the Zeravshan and Nurata nature reserves, as well as the Ugam-Chatkal nature park. Today, tour operators in Uzbekistan offer safari tours

along the route Samarkand (or Bukhara) - Nurata - Yurt camp in Aydarkul lasting 3 days / 2 nights or 2 days / 1 night. The safari tour season is from April to November.

The Kyzylkum Desert stretches east to the Syr Darya River, occupying almost the entire territory of Mesopotamia, which in ancient times was called Transoxiana. A thousand years ago, the famous Silk Road from China to European countries passed through Kyzylkum. Only the ruins of ancient palaces and fortresses and destroyed abandoned canals remind us of the eventful history of the lands lying between two rivers.

On this tour, you will be able to follow the paths of ancient caravans and find yourself several centuries ago, when the only means of transportation was the “ship of the desert” - the camel. You will see the main “pearl of the desert” - Lake Aydarkul, where you can swim or fish; You will live in a real yurt and, most importantly, ride camels. Below we offer the tour program:

Day 1: Samarkand (or Bukhara) - Nurata - Yurt camp

Meeting in Samarkand. On the way, visit ancient petroglyphs. Arrival in the city of Nurata. Sightseeing of local attractions.

Around the town, there are many sacred springs with crystal clear water. The fish that live in them is also considered sacred and cannot be eaten. In addition to them, the dervish monastery, consisting of several rooms for privacy, an old mosque from the 16th century, and the ruins of an ancient fortress are especially popular.

Lunch at one of the cafes, where they prepare the most delicious tandoor-kabob in Uzbekistan. After food, transfer by car or bus to the yurt camp, which is located 10 kilometers from Lake Aydarkul. The camp is designed in the national style and is equipped with 15 comfortable yurts. It has all the amenities including hot showers and electricity. Rich decorations of tents and colored patterns of carpets and sheds create a special festive atmosphere in the camp.

For dinner, you will be offered national dishes, 4 types of salads, fruits and oriental sweets. If necessary, you can order any alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks. Dinner by the fire and the romantic tunes of the local akyn, a cozy overnight stay - what could be more beautiful?

Day 2: Yurt camp - Lake Aydarkul - Yurt camp

After an early breakfast, a camel rides through the Kyzylkum desert to Lake Aydarkul. There are a lot of fish in the lake, so avid fishermen can enjoy excellent fishing. The rest will have to enjoy the beautiful views, get acquainted with the local flora and fauna, or collect medicinal herbs. On the shore, we will have a picnic, for lunch - freshly caught fried fish, several types of salads, fresh fruit, and mineral water. Here you can relax, swim, sunbathe in the friendly sun and take many beautiful pictures. In the late afternoon, ride on camel's back to the yurt camp. Free time. Dinner by the fire. Night in a yurt.

Day 3: Yurt camp - Samarkand (or Bukhara)

After breakfast, transfer to Samarkand (or Bukhara). End of the tour.

All camels are domesticated and trained for riding. The trip takes place under the guidance of an experienced instructor. In two-day tours, after lunch at Lake Aydarkul, tourists return to the camp, and then immediately to Samarkand (or Bukhara).

The cost of a three-day tour in soums starts from 865,000 soums and a two-day tour of 736,000 soums (per person).

Price includes:

- Accommodation for 1 or 2 nights in a yurt;
- Full board – breakfast, lunch, dinner;
- Transport rental Samarkand - Nurata - Yurt camp - Samarkand
- Mineral water during the excursion

➤ Camel ride

Tourists are recommended to take with them:

- Comfortable hiking clothes: trousers and a light jacket with a hood, a long-sleeved shirt (even in summer), a swimsuit;
- Headdress with a visor or wide brim;
- Footwear: hiking boots or sneakers, spare shoes for camp;
- Sunglasses, sunscreen, and after-sun cream, chapstick (also recommended for men);
- Flashlight with a set of spare batteries;
- Personal hygiene products and personal first aid kit;
- Passport, photo, and video equipment, all in sealed packaging.

By developing safari tourism in Uzbekistan, it will be possible to expand service networks for foreign and local tourists, attract tourists for a long time, get additional income, and create new jobs.

To summarize, we can say that on safari tours a tourist can escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life, allowing him to encounter a completely different way of life, to come into contact with nature at a relaxed pace, away from the stresses of modern life. It is a great way to recharge and explore wild places.

References:

1. Amriddinova R.S. Promising Projects for the Development of Tourism in Navoi Region.
2. Amriddinova R.S. Opportunities for the development of international tourism in the Navoi region
3. <http://www.marakandatavel.uz>
4. <https://www.uzbekistan.travel>
5. <https://www.centralasia-travel.com>
6. <https://www.advantour.com>