Country Profile: Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. While the country has undergone significant change since then, its progress towards democratic and economic reform has been halting and uneven. Corruption is endemic at all levels of society. Much of the country, particularly areas outside of Tashkent and the major tourist destinations of Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva, is remote and difficult to access. Tourist facilities in these areas are typically below Western standards, and many goods and services remain difficult to find on a regular basis. Read the Department of State Background Notes on Uzbekistan for additional information.

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COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Country Name:	Uzbekistan
Continent:	Asia
Capital City:	Tashkent
Boundary Countries:	Afghanistan 137 km, Kazakhstan 2,203 km, Kyrgyzstan 1,099 km, Tajikistan 1,161 km, Turkmenistan 1,621 km
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Tashkent International Medical Clinic Second Tashkent Medical Institute
Main Cities:	Tashkent, Jizzax, Termiz, Nukus, Urganch, Qarshi
Country Size:	447,400 sq km
Population:	27,307,134

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Uzbek 74.3%, Russian 14.2%, Tajik 4.4%, other 7.1%	
Currency:	Uzbekistani Soum (UZS)	
Predominant Religions:	Muslim 88% (mostly Sunnis), Eastern Orthodox 9%, other 3%	
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 1 September (1991)	
Economic Status:	Uzbekistan, independent from the former Soviet Union since 1991, is a country undergoing political and economic change.	
Security:	Army, Air and Air Defense Forces, National Guard	
US Presence:	<u>U.S. Embassy in Tashkent</u> 3 Moyqorghon Street 5th Block, Yunusobod District, 100093 Tashkent Phone: (+99871) 120-5450	
Major Airports:	Airports: 61 Airports with paved runways: 34 Tashkent Airport, Uzbekistan, 700167 Tashkent, Uzbekistan Tel: +998 71 54-62-67 Fax: +998 71 54-26-33, +998 71 54-16-51 email: document.write('info' + cat + 'uzair' + 'ways.' + 'com'); info@uzairways.com Airport Data: Operating hours 24hr	

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