



Traveling to Dushanbe, Tajikistan

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This report provides useful information for U.S. visitors arriving in Dushanbe. The report describes the country entry requirements, transportation routes and useful contact information for travelers. This report supersedes the September 2004 report.

"This information is provided as a courtesy to U.S. companies/agencies/organizations planning to come to Tajikistan. BISNIS is not a travel agency and your requests for travel arrangements should be directed to the proper organizations as mentioned in this document."

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The Essentials

This section describes the weather, health and safety issues, American citizen registration, transportation and country entry requirements.

Country at a glance

President	Emomali Rakhmonov
Prime Minister	Akil Akilov
Government type	Republic
Geographic	39 00 N
Coordinates	71 00 E
Area	143,100 sq km
Population	7 million (August, 2006)
Age Structure	
0-14 years:	39.2%
15-64 years:	56.1%
65 years and over:	4.7%
GDP	\$3,002 billion, 2006 est.
GDP Per Capita	\$330, 2006 est.
Capital	Dushanbe, population: 1.2 million (est.)
Principal towns	Khujand, Qurghonteppa, Kulob, Khorugh
Administrative Divisions	2 provinces; Sughd (Khujand) and Khatlon (Qurghonteppa) 1 autonomous province Gorno Badakhsahn (Khorugh)

Dushanbe at a glance

Mayor	Muhamadsaid Ubaidulloev
Population:	1.2 million (est.)
Language:	Tajik – official language
Area code:	37
Official website:	http://www.dushanbe.tj

Dushanbe is a clean, European-style city. The city is located in Gisar valley at 2,700 ft above sea level, and has wide tree-lined streets with open air cafés and teahouses. Dushanbe is the financial, political, administrative, and cultural capital of Tajikistan. All Government offices and Embassies are located in Dushanbe.

The city of Dushanbe is divided into four administrative districts: Shohmansur, Firdawsi, Ismoil Somoni and Sino (Avicenna). It is true that many streets in Dushanbe are named after Persian writers and scientists. The main points of business and interests are on or close to avenue named after Rudaki – founder of Tajik literature. The Rudaki Avenue runs from the railway station in the south to a bus station in northern part of the city. Other major streets are Saadi Sherozi, Ismoil Somoni, and Nemat Karabaeva.

To get a map of Dushanbe in JPEG please contact BISNIS Representative.

Weather

Summer in Tajikistan is hot (42 C, 108F in July and August) and winters are cold (-12 C, 10 F in January and February).

Health and Safety

There are no health restrictions to travel to Dushanbe. Food and waterborne diseases are the number one cause of illness in travelers. Avoid drinking tap water, bottled still and mineral water is available at grocery stores. Fruits and vegetables bought in local market should be washed thoroughly.

Medical information for Americans traveling abroad is located at

http://travel.state.gov/travel/abroad_health.html

For additional information on malaria risk and prevention please visit

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/easteurp.htm>

Be sure to check State Department's Travel page

<http://travel.state.gov/travel/abroad.html>

Dushanbe Prospekt Medical Clinic provides quality healthcare. The Clinic offers several western standard Clinic Procedures and Diagnostic Tests. Contact information:

33 Sanoi Street

Dushanbe, Tajikistan 734001

Tel: +992 (93) 555-4096

Tel: +992 (37) 224-3062/2243092

Email: prospekt-clinic@tajnet.com

<http://www.prospectclinic.net>

American Citizen Registration

For American travelers, registering at the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe makes your presence and whereabouts known, in case it is necessary for a consular officer to contact you in an emergency.

Follow this link for online registration:

<https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/>

U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe

109A Ismoil Somoni Avenue

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Tel: +992 (37) 229-2000

Fax: +992 (37) 229-2050

Email: DushanbeConsular@state.gov

<http://usembassy.state.gov/dushanbe>

Note: In case of emergency ask to speak to the Duty Officer

Country Background Information

U.S. Department of State background note on Tajikistan contains Tajikistan's country profile, geography, people, history, government and political conditions, economy, foreign relations, U.S.-Tajik relations, and travel information. To view the note please visit:

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5775.htm>

Transportation

There are no direct transatlantic routes to and from the Dushanbe airport. Major European and international carriers are not present in Tajikistan. The closest airports with transatlantic routes are the Istanbul Ataturk Airport in Turkey, Almaty International Airport in Kazakhstan and Domodedovo International Airport in Moscow.

There are several entryways to Dushanbe from Eurasia. The most convenient route is Istanbul – Dushanbe with Turkish Airlines. Other frequently used routes are Almaty-Dushanbe, Moscow-Dushanbe and Munich-Dushanbe (via Istanbul) with Tajikistan Airlines.

If you're traveling to multiple countries in the region please checkout the following page for foreign entry requirements:

http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/brochures/brochures_1229.html

Country Entry Requirements

Overview

A passport and visa are required to enter Tajikistan, as well as to register at hotels. Failure to produce a valid visa may force a traveler to leave the country immediately. Tajik visas can be obtained at Tajik embassies or consulates abroad. Tajik visas can also be obtained at the Dushanbe airport upon arrival only through prior arrangement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan. Visitors to Tajikistan require an official invitation from a sponsoring organization or individual. Furthermore, entry into Tajikistan at points along the Gorno-Badakhshan border requires special authorization in advance, in addition to a valid Tajik visa. Tajik authorities advise that sponsoring organizations in Tajikistan submit requests for travel authorization for the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Department of Visas and Registration (OVIR) at least three weeks in advance of the planned travel

Letter of Invitation

The letter of invitation is requested when the visitor is going to obtain a Tajik visa either in Tajikistan or in any other country where a Tajik Embassy is located. The Letter of Invitation (LOI) is issued by the MFA in Tajikistan and submitted per visitor's request either to the Tajik Embassy where the visitor is going to obtain his/her Tajik visa, or to the Dushanbe Airport Consular bureau, where the visitor can obtain his/her Tajik visa

upon arrival to Dushanbe. If the visitor needs to get the visa upon arrival at the airport, a copy of the LOI should be emailed or faxed to him/her as a confirmation of invitation. The visitor should present this document to the border officials when boarding the airplane to Dushanbe.

The invitation letter needs to specify the following information for each invited person:

- Name
- Nationality
- Date of birth
- Place of birth
- Passport number
- Passport date of issue
- Passport date of expiry
- Purpose of trip
- Duration of stay
- Official title of the person
- Name of the inviting organization.

Cost

\$5 and 6 Somoni for tourist passport holders.

Timing

The visitor should notify the inviting party in Dushanbe about the projected trip a minimum of 10-15 working days in advance of travel. Allow minimum two working weeks for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to process the request.

A Tajik Visa can be extended only by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan from 7 days to up to 1 year, subject to visitor's request.

Visa

Tajik visa cannot be obtained at land borders or at the airport. Travelers must arrange their visas prior to travel to Tajikistan. Below is a quick overview of the process.

A valid passport and visa are required to enter Tajikistan. Tajik visas can be obtained at Tajik embassies and consulates abroad. Visas may also be obtained at the Dushanbe airport upon arrival; however, this is only available through prior arrangement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Tajikistan. In addition, all visitors to Tajikistan require an official invitation from a sponsoring organization or individual and travelers must produce the visa to register at hotels. Failure to produce a valid visa may force a traveler to leave the country immediately.

Cost

Duration	Single entry-exit visa or its extension	Multiple -entry visa or its extension
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up to 3 days	\$15.00	
up to 7 days	\$30.00	
up to 14 days	\$40.00	
up to 1 month	\$50.00	\$80.00
up to 2 months	\$60.00	\$90.00
up to 3 months	\$70.00	\$100.00
up to 4 months	\$80.00	\$120.00
up to 5 months	\$90.00	\$130.00
up to 6 months	\$100.00	\$140.00
up to 7 months	\$120.00	\$160.00
up to 8 months	\$140.00	\$180.00
up to 9 months	\$160.00	\$200.00
up to 10 months	\$180.00	\$220.00
up to 11 months	\$200.00	\$240.00
up to 12 months	\$220.00	\$260.00

- Additional fee of 24 Somoni is applied.

- In urgent cases, when a Tajik visa is requested by short notice, the cost for the visa may increase up to 150%.

Timing

Visa requests must be submitted at least three weeks in advance of planned travel, and should be made by the sponsoring organization or individual to the Tajik Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) or the **Office for Visa and Registration** (hereafter “OVIR”) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Requests for visa extensions must also be done in advance through the OVIR (for tourist or commercial travelers).

Information and necessary documents

- Passport
- Duration of stay
- Numbers of entries to Tajikistan, and
- Official title

Registration

Travelers staying in Tajikistan over three calendar days must obtain registration at OVIR. Registration at OVIR must be completed within three days of arrival in Tajikistan.

To register with OVIR visitors need to provide the following:

- Passport
- Passport size photograph
- Address in Tajikistan (address of visitor’s hotel or place of stay in Dushanbe)
- Registration fee

Office of Visas and Registrations

City of Dushanbe Office:

36/3 Nemat Karaboev Street

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

List of phone numbers:

+992 (37) 233-2713

+992 (37) 233-7640

+992 (37) 233-7641

+992 (37) 233-7643

+992 (37) 233-7687

+992 (37) 233-7688

+992 (37) 233-7661

+992 (37) 233-7657

+992 (37) 233-7527

Business hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am – 5 pm

Getting a Visa in the U.S.

Visitors from the United States may apply for visa at Tajik Embassy in Washington, D.C. Usually the Embassy is willing to issue visa quite promptly, but it is advised to contact the Embassy in advance for information and details.

The Embassy of Tajikistan to the United States of America

Mr. Khamrokhon Zaripov

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

1005 New Hampshire Ave. NW

Washington DC 20037

Tel: 1 (202) 223-6090

Fax: 1 (202) 223-6091

Email: Tajikistan@verizon.net

<http://www.tjus.org>

Consulate working days and hours are:

Monday – Friday 09:00 am to 1:00 pm

Contact information for Tajikistan Embassies in Europe and Asia is provided at the end of this report.

Application package:

1. Two fully completed visa application forms. Please, note that the answers to question No. 14 on the visa application will be reflected in the issued visa.
2. Two passport size photos.
3. Valid passport. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of departure.
4. Copy of invitation from the Ministry of Foreign of Tajikistan/Ministry of Interior, or
5. Cover letter of request from your organization or travel agency. Embassy reserves the right to request for additional documents.

6. A money order or company check payable to the Embassy of Tajikistan for visa processing. Please note that, the Embassy in the U.S. does not accept cash.
7. In case of applying by mail, applicants should enclose a self-addressed, stamped return envelope or prepaid waybill, bearing the account number and showing themselves as both shipper and recipient regardless of delivery address.

Visa Fees

Duration	Fee
One week	\$50
Two weeks	\$80
One month	\$160
Two months: Single	\$230
Two months: Multiple	\$280
Three months: Single	\$270
Three months: Multiple	\$380
Six months: Single	\$400
Six-months: Multiple	\$480
One year: Single	\$320
One year: Multiple	\$600

Tips

- You do not have to travel on the travel dates specified in the letter of invitation, but your visa will not be valid outside of those dates.
- You may not arrive before, or stay beyond, the dates given in the letter of invitation.
- A scanned copy of the visitor's passport is highly desirable.
- Local travel companies can help to expedite the travel process

Transport

Transatlantic routes

There are no direct transatlantic routes to and from the Dushanbe airport. Turkish Airlines started to weekly flights to Dushanbe from Istanbul in early 2006.

Details of Turkish Airlines flights from the U.S. are available at:

www.thy.com

Continental routes

Tickets for Tajikistan State Airlines (TSA) are not available through the Internet or global reservation systems. Tickets for all TSA flights must be reserved directly with TSA.

Flight options to and from Dushanbe are listed below.

Istanbul – Dushanbe – Istanbul

Current flight schedule:

From	To	Day of week	Departure	Arrival	Fl. No.	Airline
Istanbul	Dushanbe	Thursday	08:30 pm	03:05 am+	TK 1344	Turkish
Dushanbe	Istanbul	Friday	05:05 am	08:25 am	TK 1345	Turkish

Price:

Class	One way:	Round trip (1 month):
Economy Class:	\$482	\$747
Business Class:	\$622	\$920

Dushanbe – Istanbul – Munich – Istanbul – Dushanbe:

Current flight schedule: valid May23 – October 28

From	To	Day of week	Departure	Arrival	Flight No.	Airline
Dushanbe	Istanbul	Tue-Wed	08:00	10:55	123	Tajikistan
Istanbul	Munich	Tue-Wed	12:55	14:55	121	Tajikistan
Munich	Istanbul	Tue-Wed	17:40	21:10	122	Tajikistan
Istanbul	Dushanbe	Tue-Wed	22:55	04:55+	124	Tajikistan

Price: DUSHANBE-ISTANBUL

Class	One way	Round trip			
		2 weeks	1 month	3 months	6 months
Economy	\$385	\$555	\$600	\$665	\$100
Business	\$495	\$665	\$775	\$825	\$885

Price: DUSHANBE-MUNICH

Class	One way	Round trip		
		1 month	3 months	1 year
Economy	\$555	\$845	\$885	\$925
Business	\$775	\$1,155	\$1,225	\$1,295

Turkish visas for American citizens are easily obtained for \$20 upon arrival at the airport in Istanbul. There is no requirement for American citizens to have visas in Germany.

Dushanbe – Moscow – Dushanbe:

Current flight schedule: valid March 26 – October 28

From	To	Day of week	Dep.	Arrival	Fl. No.	Airline
Moscow	Dushanbe	Daily	1:35 pm	6:25 pm	632	Tajikistan
Moscow	Dushanbe	Thu/Fri, Sat/Sun	02:20 am	07:20 am	628	Tajikistan
Dushanbe	Moscow	Thu/Fri, Sat/Sun	9:25 pm	00:20 am+	627	Tajikistan
Dushanbe	Moscow	Daily	08:25 am	11:35 am	631	Tajikistan

Price:

Class	Dushanbe-Moscow	Moscow-Dushanbe	Roundtrip
Economy Class:	\$345	\$207	\$552
Business Class:	\$390	\$332	\$722

Russian entry/transit visas must be issued at Russian Embassies/Consulates abroad in advance of initiating travel. There is no way to get a Russian visa at the airport.

Contact information:

Domodedovo Airport

<http://www.domodedovo.ru>

Dushanbe-Bishkek-Dushanbe:

Current flight schedule: valid March 26 – October 28

From	To	Day of week	Departure	Arrival	Flight No.	Airline
Dushanbe	Bishkek	Wed and Sun	09:30	12:30	4849	Tajikistan
Bishkek	Dushanbe	Wed and Sun	1:30 pm	2:40 pm	4850	Tajikistan
Bishkek	Dushanbe	Thu	1:45 pm	3:00 pm	473	Altyn Air
Dushanbe	Bishkek	Thu	4:30 pm	7:35 pm	474	Altyn Air

Price:

Airlines	One way	Roundtrip
Tajikistan	\$150	\$305
Altyn Air	\$160	\$320

For diplomatic passport holders, no Kyrgyz visas are required for destination or transit. For holders of Official/Tourist passports, transit visas can be issued upon arrival at Bishkek airport for the following prices:

- For one entry-exit visa or its extension:
up to 1 month: \$ 36.00

- For multiple-entry visas or extensions:
up to 1 month: \$ 46.00
up to 3 months: \$ 66.00
up to 6 months: \$ 101.00
up to 12 months: \$ 131.00

There is no consular branch at the borders, so for those who travel by car, the Kyrgyz visa should be issued before starting the trip at the Kyrgyz Embassies abroad.

Dushanbe – Almaty – Dushanbe:

Current flight schedule: valid March 26 – October 28

From	To	Day of	Departure	Arrival	Flight	Airline
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		week			No.	
Almaty	Dushanbe	Tue	1:30 pm	2:05 pm	4798	Tajikistan
Almaty	Dushanbe	Thu, Sun	12:25 pm	1:00 pm	4798	Tajikistan
Almaty	Dushanbe	Fri	08:35 am	09:10 am	DV469	Scat
Dushanbe	Almaty	Fri	10:10 am	12:50 pm	DV470	Scat
Dushanbe	Almaty	Tue	09:40 am	12:10 pm	4797	Tajikistan
Dushanbe	Almaty	Thu, Sun	08:30 am	11:00 am	4797	Tajikistan

Price:

Airlines	One way		Roundtrip	
	Econ	Business	Economy	Business
Tajikistan	\$160		\$325	
Scat	\$145	\$190	\$270	\$360

Kazakh transit visa can be issued upon arrival in Almaty airport based on tickets to the country of destination. The cost is \$30. Kazakh entry-exit visa should be issued before starting the trip at Kazakh Embassies abroad. The cost varies by individual Kazakh Embassies.

Dushanbe – Sharjah – Delhi – Sharjah – Dushanbe

From	To	Day of week	Departure	Arrival	Flight No.	Airline
Dushanbe	Sharjah	Wed	00:30 am	03:00 am	123	Tajikistan
Sharjah	Delhi	Wed	05:00 am	09:15 am	123	Tajikistan
Delhi	Sharjah	Wed	11:00 am	1:45 pm	124	Tajikistan
Sharjah	Dushanbe	Wed	3:30 pm	7:00 pm	124	Tajikistan

Price:

Destination	One way		Roundtrip	
	Econ	Business	Economy	Business
Dushanbe - Sharjah	\$260		\$480	
Dushanbe - Delhi	\$300		\$550	

Contact information

Tajikistan Embassies abroad

Austria, Hungary and Switzerland
The Vienna Universitats Strasse 8/1A
1090 Vienna, Austria
Tel: +43 (1) 409-8266
Fax: +43 (1) 409-826614
Email: tajikembassy@chello.at
<http://www.tajikembassy.org>

Open hours: Mon-Wed 0900-1800 (lunch break 13:00-14:00)

Republic of Kazakhstan
96 Al Farabi Avenue
Almaty, Kazakhstan 480053
Tel: +7 (3272) 542869/935165
Fax: +7 (3272) 542869
Email: tajembkaz@vitelco.kz

Kyrgyz Republic
36 Karagadinskaya Street
Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, 720031
Tel: +996 (312) 511464
Fax: +996 (312) 511464
Email: tojsaforat@exnet.kg

Republic of Uzbekistan
16 Torobi Square
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Tel: +998 (71) 254-8969
Email: temb@online.ru

Russian Federation
13 Granatniy Pereulok
Moscow, Russia 103001
Tel: +7 (095) 290-6174/290-4186/290-3846/291-4657
Fax: +7 (095) 291-8998
Email: tadjembs@online.ru
<http://www.tajikistan.ru>

For other locations please contact BISNIS Representative in Tajikistan.

Tajikistan Airlines

Almaty Office
Tel: +7 (3272) 572155
Fax: +7 (3272) 571155
Email: gart@mail.kz

Istanbul Office
Tel: +90 (212) 638-4281
Fax: +90 (212) 638-4280
Mobile: +90 (532) 251-5933
Email: Tajikistan@superonline.com

Munich Office

Tel: +49 (89) 9 759-4210
Fax: +49 (89) 9 759 -4216
Email: gartjk@i-dial.de

Travel Companies

Great Game Travel Company
5/11 Proletarskaya Street
Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Tel: +992 (37) 224-7673
Email: info@greatgametravel.co.uk
<http://www.greatgametravel.co.uk>

Central Asia Tourism Corporation
537 Seyfullin Street
Almaty, Kazakstan 480012,
Tel: +7 (3272) 501070
Fax: +7 (3272) 501707
Email: info@centralasiatourism.com
<http://www.centralasiatourism.com>
<http://www.cat-dushanbe.tj>

Intourist-Tojikiston
22 Shotemur Street
Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Tel: +992 (37) 221-8080
Fax: +992 (37) 221-5237
Email: hotel@tojikiston.com
<http://www.hotel.tojikiston.com>

Sayoh
22 Shota Rustaveli Street
Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Email: sayoh@bk.ru
<http://www.sayoh.tojikiston.com>

Tajikintourservice
20 Pushkin Street
Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Tel: +992 (37) 221-7184
Fax: +992 (37) 223-5280
Email: tis@mkf.tj
<http://www.m-r.tj>

Hotels

Kayon Hotel

7 Bohtar Street

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Tel: +992 (37) 221-6229/227-5602

Email: kayon@tajnet.com

Cost: \$50 - single bed, \$70 – double bed, \$100-120 – luxury room

Kayon-II Hotel

1 Akademik Rajabovikh Street

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Tel: +992 (37) 223-0761

Cost: \$80 – single bed

Mercury Hotel

9 Lev Tolstoy Street

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Tel: +992 (37) 224-4491/224-4137

Tel: +992 918-888-889/918-822-222

Email: info@hotel-mercury.tj

<http://www.hotel-mercury.tj>

Cost: \$60 and up – single bed, \$60 and up – double bed;

Atlas Bed & Breakfast

63 Mirzo Rizo Street

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Tel: +992 (917) 746444

Tel: +992 (37) 221-1631

Cost: \$60 and up – single bed, \$60 and up – double bed;

Jamshed Rahmonberdiev

BISNIS Representative in Tajikistan

The Embassy of the United States of America

Commercial Service

109A Ismoil Somoni Avenue

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Tel: +992 (37) 229-2000

Fax: +992 (37) 229-2050

Email: Jamshed.Rahmonberdiev@mail.doc.gov

For more information on Tajikistan, visit BISNIS online at <http://www.bisnis.doc.gov>

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(www.export.gov)