

1: Hidden millions: Central Asian Muslims migrate to Russia

Central Asia. The very words evoke the ultimate in the remote, the exotic, the unknown full of wonders. Here you will find the ancient cities of the Silk Road still in all their splendor, and one of the glitziest cities you'll ever see built yesterday in the middle of nowhere.

The ultimate aim is to emulate the Asian Tigers by becoming the local equivalent, Central Asian snow leopards. However, reform has been deliberately gradual and selective, as governments strive to limit the social cost and ameliorate living standards. All five countries are implementing structural reforms to improve competitiveness. In particular, they have been modernizing the industrial sector and fostering the development of service industries through business-friendly fiscal policies and other measures, to reduce the share of agriculture in GDP. Between and , the share of agriculture dropped in all but Tajikistan, where it progressed to the detriment of industry. The fastest growth in industry was observed in Turkmenistan, whereas the services sector progressed most in the other four countries. This includes maintaining a trade balance, minimizing public debt and accumulating national reserves. They cannot totally insulate themselves from negative exterior forces, however, such as the persistently weak recovery of global industrial production and international trade since . Notwithstanding this, they have emerged relatively unscathed from the global financial crisis of 2008-2009. Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are major cotton exporters themselves, ranking fifth and ninth respectively worldwide for volume in . Kyrgyzstan has the added disadvantage of being considered resource poor, although it does have ample water. Most of its electricity is generated by hydropower. In April 2005, President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was deposed by a popular uprising, with former minister of foreign affairs Roza Otunbayeva assuring the interim presidency until the election of Almazbek Atambayev in November 2005. According to the World Bank, Science and technology in Kazakhstan , Science and technology in Kyrgyzstan , Science and technology in Tajikistan , Science and technology in Turkmenistan , and Science and technology in Uzbekistan Modernization of research infrastructure[edit] Bolstered by strong economic growth in all but Kyrgyzstan , national development strategies are fostering new high-tech industries, pooling resources and orienting the economy towards export markets. Many national research institutions established during the Soviet era have since become obsolete with the development of new technologies and changing national priorities. This has led countries to reduce the number of national research institutions since by grouping existing institutions to create research hubs. In Uzbekistan , more than 10 institutions of the Academy of Sciences have been reorganized, following the issuance of a decree by the Cabinet of Ministers in February 2005. The aim is to orient academic research towards problem-solving and ensure continuity between basic and applied research. For example, the Mathematics and Information Technology Research Institute has been subsumed under the National University of Uzbekistan and the Institute for Comprehensive Research on Regional Problems of Samarkand has been transformed into a problem-solving laboratory on environmental issues within Samarkand State University. Other research institutions have remained attached to the Uzbek Academy of Sciences , such as the Centre of Genomics and Bioinformatics. In 2005, construction began of a technopark in the village of Bikrova near Ashgabat, the Turkmen capital. It will combine research, education, industrial facilities, business incubators and exhibition centres. The technopark will house research on alternative energy sources sun, wind and the assimilation of nanotechnologies. Between and , technological parks were set up in the east, south and north Kazakhstan oblasts administrative units and in the capital, Astana. The centre supports research projects in technology marketing, intellectual property protection, technology licensing contracts and start-ups. The centre plans to conduct a technology audit in Kazakhstan and to review the legal framework regulating the commercialization of research results and technology. In March 2005, two research institutes were created by presidential decree to foster the development of alternative energy sources in Uzbekistan, with funding from the Asian Development Bank and other institutions: Three universities have been set up since to foster competence in strategic economic areas: Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan first intake in 2005, an international research university, Inha University in Uzbekistan first intake in 2005, specializing in information and communication technologies, and the International Oil and Gas University in Turkmenistan

founded in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan are both generalizing the teaching of foreign languages at school, in order to facilitate international ties. In , Kazakhstan became the only Central Asian member of the Bologna Process , which seeks to harmonize higher education systems in order to create a European Higher Education Area. Uzbekistan broke with this trend in by raising its own research intensity to 0. Moreover, few industrial enterprises conduct research in Kazakhstan. Only one in eight Enterprises prefer to purchase technological solutions that are already embodied in imported machinery and equipment. Nevertheless, there appears to be a growing demand for the products of research, since enterprises spent 4. The number of researchers per million population is close to the world average 1, in in Kazakhstan 1, and higher than the world average in Uzbekistan 1, Uzbekistan is in a particularly vulnerable position, with its heavy reliance on higher education: Almost all holders of a Candidate of Science, Doctor of Science or PhD are more than 40 years old and half are aged over 60; more than one in three researchers

2: Central Asia - Wikipedia

All the above is just a mere sketch of some highlights of what we'll experience in Hidden Central Asia. We'll be there from September 8 to September For more info, just click on [Wheeler Expeditions-Hidden Central Asia](#).

Each is different, fascinating in its own way. While most all world travelers dream of visiting all five, few do. Yet only 18 million people live here. By the middle of the s, it was conquered by and absorbed into the expanding Russian Empire. By , over one-and-a-half million Russians, Slavs, Germans, and Jews had settled into what is now northern Kazakhstan. Shortly after independence, Nazarbayev changed the name of Alma Ata to Almaty, and decided to build a new capital. Almaty was right next to China, he wanted something more central. Everything has been built in the last 20 years with money no object " for this country with a population smaller than Romania or the state of Florida has gigantic natural resources " oil, natural gas, coal, iron, gold, copper, uranium, chromium, on and on. The Kazakhs know how to have a good time " and so will we. Over the past several hundred years, Kirghiz nomadic herders and their lands were in turn taken over by the Mongols, the Chinese, the Uzbeks, and lastly the Russians, who incorporated them into their Empire in Political stability has been elusive since independence. Coups, counter-coups, protests, riots, clashes have been going on for years. Now at last, stability and peace have arrived since the election of Sooronbay Zheenbekov as president last November. Here we find cultural and ancient historical magnificence like nowhere else on our planet. Above is the smallest glimpse of these man-made world wonders. The Tajiks are not Turkic like the other Stans, but are related to Persians speaking a dialect of Farsi. Much of Northern Afghanistan is ethnic Tajik. We cross at Penjakent, proceed up the Zeravshan Valley in the Fann Mountains, then up a remote side valley in our four-wheel drive jeeps. This is the Valley of Shing, which contain a 20 kilometer-long chain of stepping-stone lakes, rising from 4, ft to 7, ft, each one astonishingly clear and of different colors. Here are four of The Seven Pearls of Shing: We stay overnight at a lakeside guest house, and take time to visit villagers in the valley who have lived here for millennia and still speak a version of ancient Sogdian " the language of those whom Alexander fought years ago. Returning to Uzbekistan, after Khiva we cross another border, into our Fifth Stan. Turkmenistan , while almost the size of Spain has a population no bigger than Singapore 5. The Turkmen are the descendants of Turkic-Mongol tribes who came here over a thousand years ago. In , Soviet engineers found a pocket of natural gas in a remote region of the Kara Kum. When their drilling rig collapsed into an underground cavern, releasing gases they thought poisonous, they set it on fire expecting it to burn off. Be prepared for never-ending shocks when we arrive in Ashgabat. The city holds the Guinness record for most marble-clad buildings on earth " all apartments for government employees. I had an enjoyable, albeit bizarre, time when I was here recently, and so will you. And remember, the time for a great adventure is now.

3: Hidden Gems of Central Asia - Book Any Travel

Central Asia is a land of majestic mountains, ancient history, and rich culture – all nearly untouched by tourists. Founder of Wheeler Expeditions Dr. Jack Wheeler, named by The Wall Street Journal 'The Real Indiana Jones', personally designed this expedition to give you the experience of a lifetime.

A hidden gem in Central Asia Kazakhstan: Its states grew rich from being at the intersection of trade routes connecting China, India, the Middle East and Europe. The rise of sea trade in the 20th Century robbed it of this status. But while the potential for doing business in Kazakhstan is exciting, challenges remain. After gaining independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, the country underwent massive economic restructuring. Today, while Kazakhstan is still an early developer in global terms, it is undoubtedly the economic leader of the Central Asia region. Kazakhstan is slowly emerging as a viable investment destination. Some of the reasons for this include: The economic outlook for Kazakhstan appears positive, with projected annual GDP growth averaging 5%. This healthy growth outlook is largely due to the expansion of the oil industry and the growth of a few non-oil sectors. Currently, Kazakhstan is ranked 12th in the world in terms of proven reserves of oil and condensate. In recent years, Kazakhstan has won plaudits for creating a favourable business environment. According to The World Bank, Kazakhstan was ranked 47th out of countries for ease of doing business; a jump of 11 places from 1991. Since gaining independence in 1991, Kazakhstan became a constitutional republic with a strong focus on national identity, democracy and political stability. Equal rights and equal opportunities are given to all, regardless of nationality, so as to create a harmonious multi-ethnic environment. Kazakhstan is strategically situated in the middle of Europe and Asia, almost equidistant from both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Most importantly, it is located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, thus guaranteeing a role in trade. The recent launch of a new railway through Kazakhstan linking China to Europe strengthens this advantage. One of the biggest competitive advantages Kazakhstan has would be its rich abundance of natural resources. Kazakhstan is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of energy resources, such as petroleum and natural gas, as well as mineral resources such as titanium, magnesium, tin, uranium, gold and other color metals. Where to invest – Emerging sectors: A few sectors are now fast-emerging as business opportunities for export sales as well as investment in Kazakhstan. The construction industry presents many opportunities for foreign investment and partnerships. As part of the Affordable Housing Program, the government plans to commission 1. This would translate to an investment of USD5. Banking and financial services: Just like many former Soviet Republics, one of the biggest challenges Kazakhstan faces is its poor infrastructure. This is especially so in the areas of transportation and telecommunications. In terms of transportation networks, Kazakhstan lacks a modern highway system and railway network to transport freight in an organized and reliable manner. The telecommunications services are also incongruent with the rapid economic growth of the country. Due to poor infrastructure, there has been much delay in the flow of goods and materials, as well as increasing difficulty for suppliers and distributors to communicate with each other across geographic distances. This is a place drop from Skills shortages are another major challenge in Kazakhstan. According to the Kazakh Statistics Agency, skills shortages in the country are on the rise. As of January 2010, the biggest labour shortage has been observed in the manufacturing industry, where there is a shortfall of approximately 10,000 workers. This is followed by the construction industry as well as the health and social services sector, with a shortfall of approximately 5,000 and 3,000 workers respectively. Conclusion Undoubtedly, Kazakhstan is still grappling with the challenge of creating a transparent and effective business climate to draw in foreign investors. Challenges stemming from its Soviet era past, such as poor infrastructure and high corruption, remain prudent – making it necessary for companies to undertake cautious planning before executing any business plan in the country. In particular, companies should reach agreement with the government on arrangements for securing manpower before inking any investment deals. Despite the challenges, the investment outlook remains positive. The Kazakh government has shown the political will to meet these challenges. As the economy continues to open up, more foreign firms are expected to penetrate the Kazakhstan market.

4: Uzbekistan – A hidden gem for cycling in Central Asia | We Love Mountains

Kazakhstan: A hidden gem in Central Asia. In medieval times, central Asia lay at the heart of Asia's economy. Its states grew rich from being at the intersection of trade routes connecting China, India, the Middle East and Europe.

A Hidden Gem in Central Asia: A continental perspective on Y-chromosome diversity paved the way, with several others following in their regard. Members of the same team including Dr. Y-Chromosomal Insights into Central Asia - on the same topic in the following year, this time headed by Dr. However, none of this data was supplied, with only Y-SNP information included shown sporadically in this entry. The age of this paper is apparent through the nomenclature used see Method section. All data was run through YPredictor. As discussed below, relevant findings are compared with the basic Y-SNP haplogroups shown in the original study on right. It appears that the STR selection has led to a phantom result, rendering many of the samples useless. Additionally, some conversion error seems to have applied with DYS i. Results As the majority of samples were removed owing to the caveat described above, this entry will take a qualitative rather than quantitative approach to analysis on the general picture formed. Much of the remaining results are congruent with findings in other papers. Tajiks and the Kyrgyz were predominantly R1a1a-M It was mostly detected among the Turkmen trk1, trk2, trk4, trk6, trk7, trk22, T29, T32 with a single sample among the Uzbek uz-s The rest match this haplotype exactly or have single 1-step mutations. This definitively rules out the Kurds as a source for the haplotype, particularly as better matches can be found further to the west. This haplotype matched some Caucasians very well, but others not so well. The Kurds living in Turkmenistan belonged to their own haplotype. Is This Actually R1b-M? Attention must first be shown to the original paper again; any potential R1b-M here will be present as P xR1a R7 shown in the paper as "Haplogroup 1". Other haplogroups such as other forms of R1b, R2a-M, various Q subclades presumably make up the rest of "Haplogroup 1" shown. The next step is to verify whether or not this Central Asian R1b haplotype matches other R1b haplotypes online. A genetic distance GD of 3 was allowed on these 15 markers. Results are shown on the right. Expanding the line of inquiry one further step came through comparing this haplotype with Iranian haplotypes [2] which were readily available. Finally, a comparison was made with the R1b found in Afghanistan last year [3]. Conclusion The inferences made from the data hang by a metaphorical thread due to the persistent STR issue; different labs have used different panels in the past decade, making it excruciatingly difficult to use materials from older papers. Fortunately, the presence of a specific strain of R1b-M in Central Asian in Turkmen and Uzbeks has successfully been demonstrated after select exclusions and no modifications to the data. However, some larger questions remain. Would the Tajik from the other Haber et al. The origin of this Central Asian R1b haplotype will, I anticipate, also be a point discussed heavily among interested parties. At this point in time, I must stress that none of the evidence thus far points to anything in particular without ruling other theories out, although it leaves the door for interpretation wide open. Having given this cautionary statement, the main thrust of this entry should be emphasised; R1b-M in Central Asia is a confirmed reality and here to stay. I will defer any subsequent analyses to the experts on Y-DNA R1b which grace several genetic genealogy boards for their take on the flavour of this haplotype. Acknowledgement I publicly extend my gratitude to Dr. A genetic landscape reshaped by recent events: Y-chromosomal insights into central Asia. Am J Hum Genet. Epub Jul Influences of history, geography, and religion on genetic structure: Eur J Hum Genet. Epub Dec 1. Epub Mar

5: Kazakhstan: A hidden gem in Central Asia – ASIA RESEARCH Magazine

Riding across Uzbekistan was more of an accident than a choice. I only rode there purely because it lay in my way as I headed east. Before I got to the border I couldn't even point to Uzbekistan on a map, I genuinely didn't know anything about the place.

Minimum 4 maximum 12 travelers Suitable for ages Travels to: Upon arrival to Almaty airport, we will meet you and transfer to hotel for rest after flight. It takes about 20 min. Such variety of landscapes causes existence of rich natural world. Besides natural sights the country has a lot of rich history which is imprinted in numerous monuments: Kazakhstan – is a country of most ancient civilization of Eurasian continent, homeland of nomad tribes, a significant part of Great Silk Road – km. The republic contains 27 thousand monuments of antiquity. Leading industries of Kazakhstan are: Oil processing and production of building materials are also developed industries of Kazakhstan. Dinner The city of a thousand colours – Almaty It is the cultural capital and largest metropolitan area in Kazakhstan. The history of this megalopolis dates all the way back to the Silk Road. Vibrant, green and also the financial heart of the country, Almaty is a real source of inspiration – and not just for the locals. It is the largest city of country which was state capital during period from to The main sight of Alma-Ata is Panfilov Park named in honor of 28 heroes of the panfilovets, stretched in northeast part of the city covering near 18 hectares. Located in center of park is majestic Sacred Voznesensky cathedral. Behind Panfilov park, we come visit to one of biggest market places of Almaty – the Green Bazaar. It is a fine example of a true Asian bazaar. In the southern part of the city we visit Central State Museum – place to see unique archeological finds telling history of Kazakhstan since the most ancient times to present. Museum displays over thousand exhibits. After dinner at one of the local restaurants we overnight at hotel in Almaty. In route which will take approximately 4 hours we will enjoy beautiful landscape. Soon we will welcome you to Kyrgyzstan. On the way we will provide short information about Kyrgyzstan. Republic located in northeast of Central Asia, crossed by two world great mountain systems, Tien Shan and Pamir. In the afternoon we will arrive to the capital of Kyrgyzstan – Bishkek. Check in to the hotel for a short rest and have lunch at local restaurant. For the second part of the day we will have a sightseeing of Bishkek visit Central Museum, Panfilov park, the local bazaar. After dinner at one of the local restaurants, today we will overnight in Bishkek. Issyk Kul is one of the largest mountain lakes of the world and most beautiful lake in Kyrgyzstan located in northeast part of the republic between ridges of Northern Tien Shan: Kungey Ala and Terskey Ala at the height of m above sea level. Excursions will also include visiting petroglyphs of Paleolithic era and local museum in Cholpon Ata. Overnight at hotel in Issyk Kul Lake. Gentle slopes of a valley are covered with a dense fir forest. Length of a valley is 25 mi. The Grigorevka Gorge, is considered one of the most picturesque in Issyk Kulsy area. A domestic flight of one hour to Osh. Have a short city tour in Osh founded by King Solomon years ago as legends say. After lunch pass through border formalities on both checkpoints. In Uzbekistan meet your local guide and driver and drive to Ferghana Valley. Overnight in the hotel. After all, transfer to Rishtan 51 km and visiting of ceramic workshop of Rustam Usmanov. The factory was built in and produces fabric on the traditional technology, i. We can also visit Famous Kokand bazar. Continue driving to Tashkent. Upon arrival dinner at local restaurant. Overnight at hotel in Tashkent. Later proceed to Chorsu Bazaar, visit Kukeldash madrassah. Enjoy your dinner at a local restaurant with delicious Uzbek cousin. After completing customs and passport controls on both sides of the border, you will be met by Tajik local guide and driver on the Tajik side and depart to Khujand. You will try traditional and delicious Tajik cuisine at their local restaurant. After a few hours of sightseeing tour drive back to Tajikistan-Uzbekistan border point Oybek. After passing the border Oybek, you will be met by your Uzbek guide and on Uzbekistan side and transfer to your hotel in Tashkent. Upon arrival proceed for city tour of Samarkand. Overnight at hotel in Samarkand. The difference in age between them is years. Also visit the Observatory of Ulugbek built by the great astronomer Mirzo Ulugbek, the grandson of Tamerlane. Afternoon is free at leisure to explore city on your own. It was considered as the site of urban life from VI century BC till the destruction by Mongol troops in Arrival at Bukhara at Meet and transfer to hotel for check in. Proceed for

a city sightseeing tour of Saint Bukhara year-old. Today we walk through the famous Lyabi-Haus complex that was earlier a big center of craft, trade, education and culinary, owned by one of former biggest diasporas-Bukharan Jewish, who have been keeping their small community along with Synagogue. Through the old streets we move toward the heart of City-Poi Kalon ensemble. Overnight at hotel in Bukhara. Then visit Sitara-i-Mokhikhosa , the summer residence of the former emir of Bukhara, later proceed to Chor Minor. Return back to Bukhara. The memorial complex on the burial site of the saint has repeatedly been reconstructed since every ruler of Bukhara considered it his duty to make his own annexe. Stop at chayhana tea house en-route for lunch or picnic lunch on the banks of the Amudarya River according to weather condition. Dinner in Khiva at a local Restaurant. Overnight at hotel in Khiva. Its area is thousand sq. On the north-west the desert is limited by hollow of Aral Sea, on the north-east by Syrdarya and on the south-west is limited by Amudarya. Lunch at local restaurant. And, the townspeople have always tried to outperform their competitors by decorating their mosques in such a way that they are better than others. Friday mosque is a solemn place for festive gatherings. Evening flight to Ashgabat. On arrival in Ashgabat, transfer to Ak Altyn hotel for overnight. Located in an atmospheric area on an irregular pentagon hill, at the foot of the Kopet-Dag Mountains, Old Nisa is a beautiful landmark. BC – III c. AD structures, designated as royal residence and temple complex. Overnight at hotel Ak Altyn.

6: The Best Hidden Restaurants in NYC

1. Introduction Central Asian Y-DNA diversity has been an area of constant intrigue in the genetics community. Wells et al.'s The Eurasian Heartland: A continental perspective on Y-chromosome diversity paved the way, with several others following in their regard.

WhatsApp Riding across Uzbekistan was more of an accident than a choice. I only rode there purely because it lay in my way as I headed east. I usually select countries to cycle across based on the number and height of mountains or even the quality of food, but maybe I need to rethink this because it turns out you can miss out on some fantastic places! Uzbekistan has it all from the unique landscape to UNESCO listed heritage sites and bazaars that transport you back to the heyday of the silk road caravans. It is maybe best known for the vanishing Aral Sea. During the USSR days a thirsty cotton growing industry sucked all the water out leaving behind just more desert, along with desolate ships stranded in the sand. Politically Uzbekistan is still a mystery to me. The president is head of state and head of the government. The government controls the media here and they effectively banned foreign currency and blocked ATM machines. As a result of this restriction the largest denomination note is about 20 pence. Add to this the distances between stunning historic towns like Khiva, Bukhara and Samarkand are perfect for touring. If you get hungry then the perfect refreshment can be found by the roadside in the form of fresh water melon stands. Being allowed to pay for a melon is the exception to the rule with friendly sellers giving them away to us, one even offered me his camp bed to sleep in for the night. I arrived on my bike after riding overland from the north east and specifically the town of Beyneu in Kazakhstan. After being constantly sand blasted in the face by the wind all day we saw a mirage of the Uzbek border building rise on the horizon. Crossing was a pretty intense experience as every pill from paracetamol to Rennies has to be counted and a mime acted to explain symptoms treated mostly just diarrhoea. Then every dollar was declared and counted. Before finally a x-ray for the bike and finally then you can enter the same windswept sandy landscape you just left. Like all my overnight stays in Uzbekistan we were welcomed in with hot tea and biscuits. It felt like hygiene might not be exemplary out here in the absence of running water so we opted to cook our own food under the setting desert sun. Bikes locked to a rusty old heap of metal made it feel very post-apocalyptic and Mad Max-esque. Still interested in visiting? Well in practise it is once every three nights and at the border they were entirely nonplussed about the registration slips. They just emptied them out and handed them back so I could have stayed anywhere I wanted in hindsight! However I suspect that might soon change. The desert finally gave way to what makes Uzbekistan special, a huge historic hilltop mud fort rose above desert on one side and green fertile oasis on the other. Intrigued by this lonely structure we cycled over to be greeted by a man entirely on his own playing traditional tunes on a Ukulele type thing. As bizarre experiences go this was up there with the best. We chatted to him before climbing the hill fort and gaining views over into nearby Turkmenistan. The lush green river snaking through the sand being all the separated these two countries and the first greenery we had seen in days. That evening we rolled into Khiva a town within vast intimidating defensive mud walls that must have been 15m wide at the base and at least that tall. Spiked with spears of wood you can imagine ancient marauding armies arriving after crossing the desert only to be thwarted here. The old town was in good condition and felt like it should be full of tourists but instead it was empty, a few stalls selling their wares, kids playing in the streets and mosques echoing the call to prayer. I suspect the tourists will come but at the moment it felt like a step back in time. The local women wear colour head scarves and bright flora dresses. The first we get dragged into was the male party with lots of vodka going around. Toasts were raised for random things and a pretty dancing lady was looking fairly overwhelmed in the middle of the room. Later on I stumbled upon a female wedding party and was waved in, the dancing here was far more stylish and dignified, far less vodka being consumed. The outfits were pretty amazing, lots of gold and deep rich fabrics. The next day I rode my bike around the streets exploring most of the city and stocking up on provisions. The kid in the picture was convinced he could get on my XL framed Tripster! The ride continued south to Bukhara which was going to be tough with limited chance to stock up on supplies en-route, but staying with a friendly family on the way added to the experience. We were constantly

stumbling upon more juicy sweet water melons added to the enjoyment as we progressed south. At Bukhara we again toured the ancient city, here it is more engulfed by the modern soviet buildings but still formed the heart of the place. There are more tourists here with the associated souvenir stands but still a remarkable place to explore. However what really made the visit was staying at a low key guest house that let us camp on the mud roof top with the most amazing views across to the mosques, then at night we were illuminated by the stars. The picture below shows our beds on the roof: The old towns can be found all over the country and they highlight the strategic importance of Uzbekistan on the ancient silk road trade route. The bazaars in these towns were the melting pots of the world where traders of all ethnicities would stop to rest and trade before heading to China or the middle east. Just as it was back in those days it is still a place where travellers are embraced and shown hospitality whether on motor bikes, Jeeps or cyclists. In the few guest houses all like minded travellers seem to turn up creating a great atmosphere of story telling and tales from life on the road. Few were on short trips it seemed, myself included. The roads were getting busier as I headed towards Samarkand but still I was flanked by dry dusty fields dotted with irrigated cotton or watermelons. People were busy working on the land or selling from the road side. Constantly having a friendly race on bikes from being waved down for some tea and sweets. A favourite here is tea with jam mixed in, served with a boiled sweet and sugary bread. I guess the abundance of gold teeth reflects the quantity of sugar consumed! I almost made the km from Bukhara in one day but, the light was fading fast. I called into a local village and asked around for a place to stay, the international symbol of sleeping was demonstrated and a room was found for me, only after a game of snooker on a full size table – rather unexpected out here. Despite me not speaking any Russian I always got by with a smile and a hand sign however I wish I learnt a few more words to get the most out of the experience. Samarkand was the biggest city so far and yet again a fascinating complex of mosques. The most impressive was three huge mosques all tiled in blue mosaics. It is called The Registan and was the heart of the ancient city of Samarkand of the Timurid dynasty.. The Bibi-Khanym Mosque was another stunning building from the s: This area requires a permit and has seen some unrest with a fractured and disputed territory. I went to Tashkent and decided this was probably the least interesting city as I headed north to Kazakhstan. Linking up all these fascinating places would make a great two week tour. I had an absolute blast riding here. Yes I was pretty scared of how strict some of the rules were and where I registered properly, but the people and the cycling more than make up for it. The flat miles mean you can cover some serious ground too.

7: Central Asia's hidden burden of neglected tropical diseases

The Shah-i Zinda necropolis, the most famous of such complexes in Central Asia and one of the most photogenic, is less visited than the Registan to the south west. The Timurid decorative work is a testament to the dedication, craftsmanship and aesthetic awareness of its carvers.

8: Central Asia's Hidden Burden of Neglected Tropical Diseases

I just returned from 3 weeks in Kyrgyzstan. As a landscape photographer, I have traveled to lots of countries in the world so I guess I can say I am 'used' to beautiful landscapes. Until.

9: HIDDEN CENTRAL ASIA – To The Point News

The open-access journal PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases will publish an article emphasizing the rising burden of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Central Asia on Tuesday, Sept. 27th.

An analysis of three non-objective choreographic techniques Sewing machine operator training handbook in hindi Fee coding standard. House of the Dead 2 Official Strategy Guide (Brady Games) The americans chapter 28 State Sovereignty and International Criminal Law What Is a Reptile? (Pebble Books) Defeat in the East IX.13.1.Opening a window on new therapeutic strategies. Application of infrared spectroscopy III. Materials; statics; roof trusses; hardware. The road to Esmeralda Piping questions and answers Introduction to the immune response and inflammation Sims 4 prima guide The end of the movie. Developing a change Make indesign interactive for Mother and matchmaker Personal revelation Guide for the submission of unsolicited proposals. Z. Being in Between: Iain Crichton Smith and Scottish Heroism in the Third Reich Legend in Green Velvet Adamsville quadrangle, Alabama-Jefferson Co India in the nineteenth century Insight Guide Puerto Rico (Puerto Rico, 3rd ed) Electrical and electronics engineering objective questions and answers The grace of God (supernatural enablement) What To Do In Holidays?/t4 Library Of Irish Music Irish pubs of Boston Spreading the gospel of the modern dance Exercising to music Applying Multiple Intelligences To Gifted Education Theology from the perspective of a living adept by Herbert D. Long The role of beliefs in inference for rational expectations models People of Kauwerak Is 2720 part 8 1983 The book of absent people