

## **Help Sheet to Design a Tour for a Group Interested in Architecture**

### **The basics:**

There is so much interesting architecture in Central Asia!! Much of Kazakhstan had a traditionally nomadic lifestyle, which did not result in the creation of great cities; however, you can look at the traditional capital of Almaty or the ultra-modern (futuristic), recently-built capital city of Nur-Sultan. Uzbekistan, by contrast, has the great medieval cities – with strong Persian influences – of Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva.

### **How to research the topic:**

Look up “architecture of Uzbekistan” and “architecture of Kazakhstan” and then look it up by the cities indicated above. Find examples of different kind of architecture and be able to explain why it is unique, important, or representative.

### **Planning your itinerary:**

It is the urban landscapes themselves that will interest you rather than museums. But be sure to plan your trip for the right time of the year when you can do outdoor activities. (For example, you wouldn't want to visit Nur-Sultan in January (when the temperature is well below zero), nor would you want to visit Bukhara in mid-July (when the temperature might be over 100 degrees). Explain your timing as part of your travel plan.

### **Travel from place to place:**

In planning your itinerary, you can take short regional flights to get to or from big cities that are far apart (e.g. from Nur-Sultan to Almaty or Tashkent). Be sure to check on Kayak.com or some other site to see if there are flights between cities that you want to visit. You don't want to waste time on travel from place to place, so find direct flights. You must somehow strike a balance in your itinerary so that your travelers can see as many places as possible but not so many places that they spend all their time traveling without enough time to see things.