



BARSA KELMES

A MARATHON
THROUGH TIME AND SPACE

 Sept 14-15, 2024

 Barsa-Kelmes salt flat, Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan



The BARSA KELMES Marathon

Join the world's first marathon on the unique terrain of the historic Barsa-Kelmes lakebed! Experience the pristine white salt surfaces and dinosaur fossils that create an unparalleled atmosphere. This is not just a marathon; it's a challenge to your spirit and physical endurance in extreme conditions.

For the first time ever, the BARSA KELMES Marathon will take place on the unique terrain of the historic Barsa-Kelmes salt lake bed, a location otherwise inaccessible at any other time. The surreal backdrop of the race, adorned with fossils of dinosaurs and megalodon sharks, creates a one-of-a-kind atmosphere for participants.

The whitest marathon - BARSAL KELMES

Participating in the Barsa-Kelmes marathon is a unique opportunity to challenge yourself in extreme conditions, while enjoying breathtaking landscapes and an atmosphere straight out of a science fiction film. The heat, dry air, and salty winds add a special twist to this adventure, pushing participants to overcome their limits and test their resilience. The white salt fields, shimmering under the bright sun, create unforgettable experiences and offer unique photo opportunities.

Moreover, by participating in this event, you become part of an eco-marathon aimed at raising awareness of the region's environmental issues and supporting initiatives for its preservation. Each participant contributes to the important cause of conserving Barsa-Kelmes' unique natural heritage.



Photo:
UltraRunner- Dean Karnazes (right)
Uzbekistan Track&Field Champion-Andrey Kulikov(left)
running together on Barsal Kelmes

More About Barsa-Kelmes



The landscape of Barsa-Kelmes resembles another planet: pristine white salt flats and endless horizons create the impression of an alien world, where the sky and earth merge, giving the illusion of infinity. Here, under the scorching sun, you will feel like a part of a majestic natural spectacle.

Barsa-Kelmes is not just a place but an open-air museum with a rich history connected to the ancient Tethys Sea. The high salt content and lack of water make this region especially harsh, creating unique conditions for studying natural processes and the history of Earth. You will be running on land where, millions of years ago, marine creatures lived, leaving behind fossils as a reminder of nature's grandeur.

Lake Barsa-Kelmes is also steeped in legends and myths, reflecting the ancient history and culture of the local population. Its remoteness and inaccessibility make it a place surrounded by mystery and intrigue. The salt flat is a critical habitat for rare species of plants and animals, adapted to the extreme conditions.

Event Details

Schedule:

- September 14

- 10:00 AM – Distribution of race bags at the "Damir" hotel.
- 12:00 PM – Departure to the Barsakelmes salt flat.
- 3:00 PM – Arrival at the tent camp, tent setup, and lunch.
- 5:00 PM – Briefing and instructions.
- 6:00 - 7:00 PM – Free time (opportunity to relax in the lounge area).
- 7:00 PM – Dinner.
- 8:00 PM – Entertainment program "Ethno-Show":
 - Bonfire show. Ethnic music. Fireworks.
- 9:00 - 10:00 PM – DJ and music program.
- Overnight stay – Participants spend the night in a tent camp in tents.

The camp will include:

- 2 yurtas as relaxation zones.
- 2 covered food zones where meals will be served.
- 10 portable toilets for the convenience of participants.

Event Details

Schedule:

- September 15

- 4:30 AM — Wake-up.
- 4:45 AM — Breakfast.
- 5:15 AM — Departure to the starting point (10 km transfer from the camp). Transfer to the start will be organized by jeeps.
- 6:00 AM — Start of the races for distances of 5 km, 10 km, 21 km, 42 km.
 - Water stations every 5 km.
- After the finish:
 - Medal distribution.
 - Waiting for late arriving participants.
 - Return to the yurt camp.
- 1:00 PM — Lunch in the camp after the race.
- 2:00 PM — Departure back to Nukus.

Event Details

Event Fee: USD 130

The event fee includes:

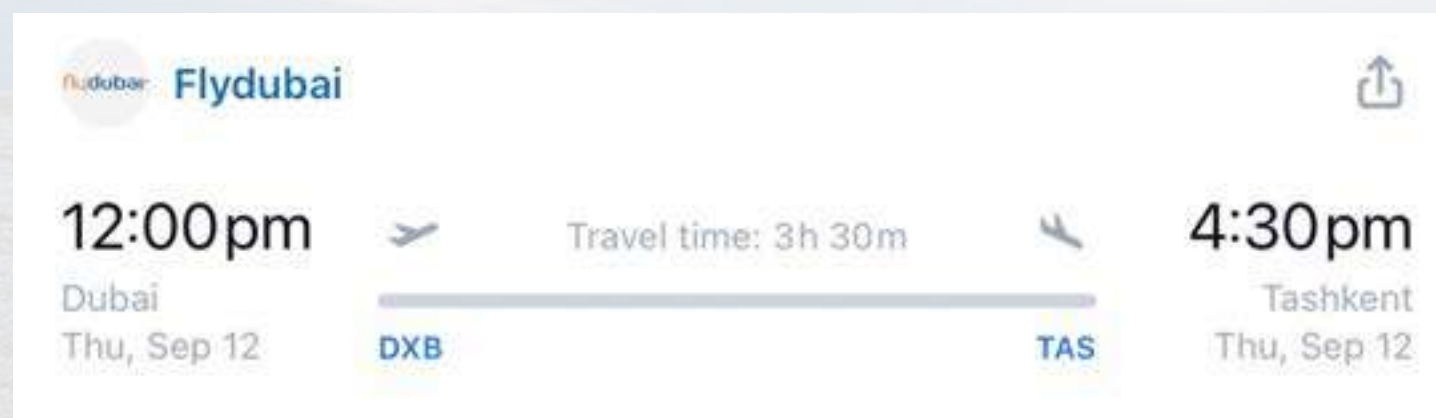
1. Race entry
2. Overnight stay on Sept 14 at Camp
3. Transfer by SUVs: Nukus - Barsakelmes Salt Flat - Nukus
4. Four meals
5. Fruits and water along the race route
6. Finisher's medal
7. Bib number with a chip
8. Long sleeve shirt & Finisher's T-shirt (only for marathon participants)
9. Cap & Backpack
10. Support along the race route
11. Transfer from the base camp to the starting point and back
12. Team leader support
13. Entertainment program
14. Access pass to the Barsakelmes Salt Flat
15. Photos & Finish video

Get to Nukus

Participants can fly from Dubai or Abu Dhabi to Tashkent on/before September 13. And take the morning flight from Tashkent to Nukus on September 14. Or you can choose to arrive Nukus earlier. Drive time from Nukus Airport to Meeting Point - Damir Hotel is 10 mins.

Here are some flights suggestions:

Depart from Dubai



Flydubai flight card showing a flight from Dubai to Tashkent on Thursday, September 12. The flight departs at 12:00pm and arrives at 4:30pm, with a travel time of 3h 30m. The airports are DXB (Dubai) and TAS (Tashkent).

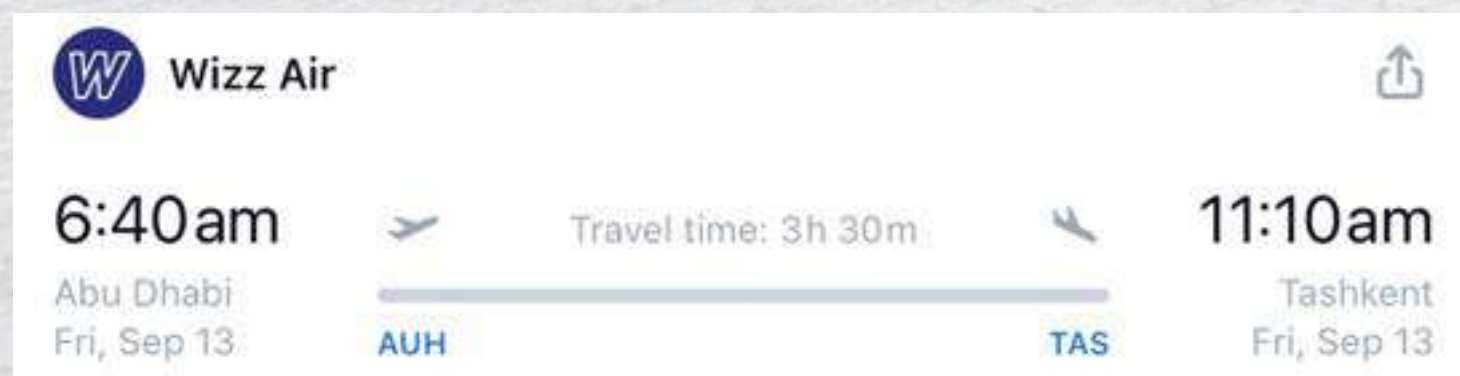
Carrier	Origin	Depart	Travel Time	Arrive	Destination
Flydubai	Dubai	12:00pm	3h 30m	4:30pm	Tashkent
	Thu, Sep 12				Thu, Sep 12



Uzbekistan Airways flight card showing a flight from Dubai to Tashkent on Thursday, September 12. The flight departs at 12:30pm and arrives at 4:40pm, with a travel time of 3h 10m. The airports are DXB (Dubai) and TAS (Tashkent).

Carrier	Origin	Depart	Travel Time	Arrive	Destination
Uzbekistan Airways	Dubai	12:30pm	3h 10m	4:40pm	Tashkent
	Thu, Sep 12				Thu, Sep 12

Abu Dhabi to Tashkent



Wizz Air flight card showing a flight from Abu Dhabi to Tashkent on Friday, September 13. The flight departs at 6:40am and arrives at 11:10am, with a travel time of 3h 30m. The airports are AUH (Abu Dhabi) and TAS (Tashkent).

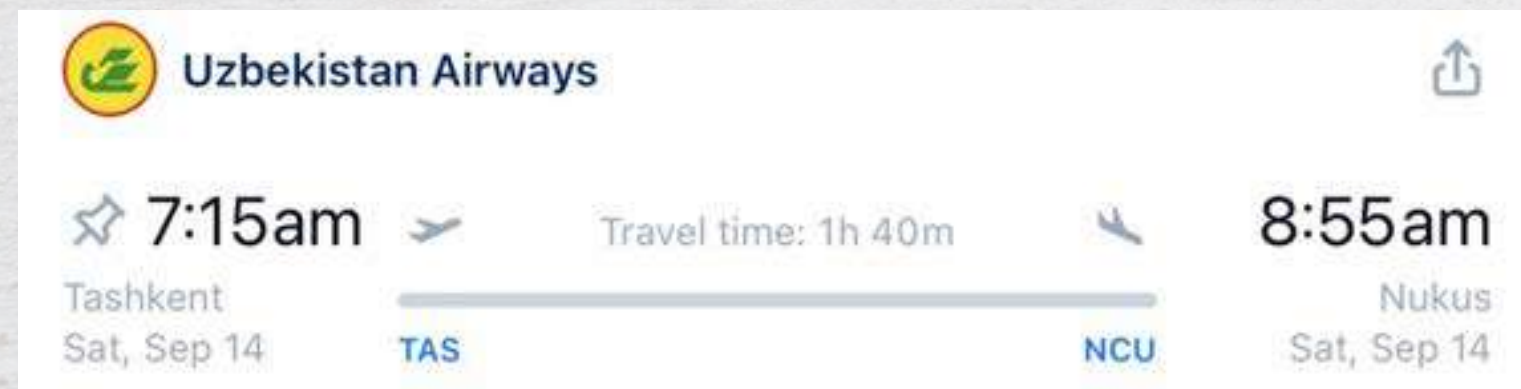
Carrier	Origin	Depart	Travel Time	Arrive	Destination
Wizz Air	Abu Dhabi	6:40am	3h 30m	11:10am	Tashkent
	Fri, Sep 13				Fri, Sep 13

Get to Nukus

Participants can fly from Dubai or Abu Dhabi to Tashkent on/before September 13. And take the morning flight from Tashkent to Nukus on September 14. Or you can choose to arrive Nukus a day earlier. Drive time from Nukus Airport to Meeting Point - Damir Hotel is 10 mins.

Here are some flights suggestions:

Tashkent to Nukus



The screenshot shows a flight booking for Uzbekistan Airways. The flight is from Tashkent to Nukus on Saturday, September 14. The departure time is 7:15am and the arrival time is 8:55am. The travel time is 1h 40m. The flight is operated by Uzbekistan Airways (TAS) and the destination is Nukus (NCU). There is a share icon in the top right corner.

Origin	Departure Time	Travel Time	Arrival Time	Destination
Tashkent	7:15am	1h 40m	8:55am	Nukus

Uzbekistan Airways

Tashkent Sat, Sep 14

Nukus Sat, Sep 14

**ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE.
LEAVE YOUR MARK ON BARSA KELMES!**



Visit Uzbekistan

EXPERIENCE NATURE, HISTORY & CULTURE



PLACES TO VISIT

Kukeldash Madrasah and Hast-Imam Square

A historical center of Islamic culture with a library that houses the oldest Quran in the world

Chorsu Bazaar

One of the oldest and largest bazaars in Central Asia. A great place to buy souvenirs and sample local cuisine.

Tashkent Metro

The first metro in Central Asia with unique architectural stations



ACCOMODATIONS

Nuova Boutique Hotel

features a shared lounge, terrace, a restaurant and bar in Tashkent. Located next to a running track.

Mirzo Boutique Hotel

features a garden, terrace, a restaurant and bar in Tashkent.

Damir Hotel

DAMIR HOTEL is located in Nukus. Among the facilities of this property are a restaurant, a shared lounge and room service, along with free WiFi throughout the property.



RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS

Caravan

traditional Uzbek dishes in an authentic setting

Afsona

offers a modern interpretation of Uzbek cuisine

Chayhana Atlas

a traditional teahouse where you can try a variety of
Uzbek dishes

