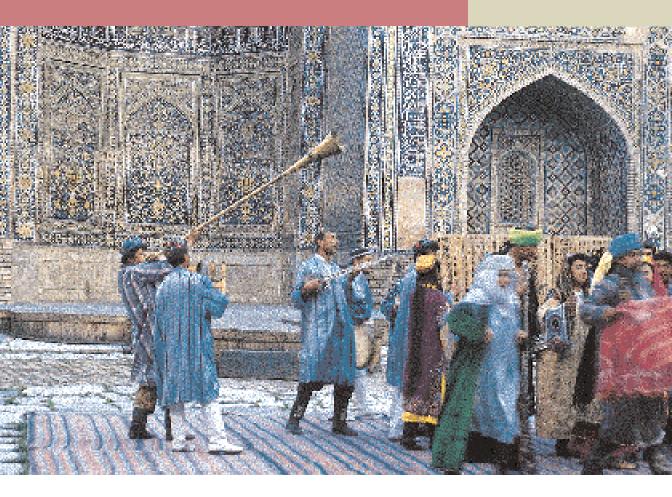
## Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara, Samarkand



**Nobody ever forgets** their first sight of the soaring massive gates to the fortress that rise up out of the desert in Bukhara. Inside this city of desert-hues, the fortress and the emir's palace really do have to be seen, but the Kalyan Minaret (dating back to 1127) is the greatest remnant of old Bukhara; Genghis Khan destroyed most of the city, but left the minaret standing because he was so struck by its beauty.

Ancient Arab manuscripts refer to Samarkand as the *Gem of the East*; Europeans called it the "Land of Scientists." Alexander the Great was dazzled by its mosaics, and visitors today are still impressed by the Registan Square and the Jewish Quarter.

## WE SUGGEST:

One night in Tashkent, one night in Khiva, two nights in Bukhara, two nights in Samarkand. A private dinner in Samarkand's famous Madrassa.