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## **Ecotourism Potential and Challenges in Uzbekistan's Natural Landscapes**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This essay explores the ecotourism potential of Uzbekistan, a Central Asian country gifted with beautiful and natural landscapes. It presents Uzbekistan's canicular deserts, ancient mountains, and protected areas that resort biodiversity, presenting opportunities for activities like safaris, camel caravans, and wildlife viewing. However essay will include some key issues that should be overcame by government such as negative touristic behaviors, space to development perspectives and others. The essay gives decent information about that Uzbekistan may use its natural resources to construct a sustainable ecotourism sector that protects its ecological heritage and treasures by working together with neighbors to solve these issues.

**Keywords:** Uzbekistan, Central Asia, Biodiversity, Conservation.

### **Introduction**

Uzbekistan is situated in heart of central Asia what has beautiful nature and landscapes and lots of opportunities for developing eco-tourism and attracting green tourists . Uzbekistan is covered full of mountains and desserts in regions such Bukhara , Navai , Samarkand and Boysun , Countries unique eco system and nature offer lots of opportunities and amenities for developing ecotourism or increasing number of green tourists . And this essay will explore the ecotourism potential of Central Asia and Uzbekistan's Natural unique sides and nominate key challenges which is main problem for developing potential of Uzbekistan to achieve higher achievements in tourism sector.

### **Literature review**

Furthermore, The Telegraph points out that Uzbekistan, home to the Silk Road, offers many reasons to visit, with Bukhara, Khiva, Shakhrisabz, and Samarkand as the main UNESCO-recognized tourist hubs. In fact, Uzbekistan is one of the world's 30 safest countries, according to the Global Terrorism Index-2019 by Insitute if Global economics and peace (2020) . It is estimated that Uzbekistan is home to almost 7400 objects of cultural heritage by Allaberganov ,A.;Preko , A.(2020).

### **Body paragraph**

Uzbekistan is famous with its huge and beautiful desserts in Navai and Bukhara what gives diverse

prospects to organizing or take an example from African safari examples, Uzbekistan straightforwardly can organize safaris or relatable ecotourism activities, attractions. In Kyzyl-Kum, Ustyurt and Aralkum are the best options to organize such a trip around Uzbekistan, or organize camel caravan travel for short distance destination what can give visitors to turn back to the historical centuries (Middle centuries). These places not only covered by sand and stones it also has its unique flora and fauna world usually covered with different plants and rare animals, and exploring wild world and experiencing its atmosphere leaves unforgettable memories in tourists.

Except the Deserts, Uzbekistan is gifted by nature with huge and ancient mountains such as Chimyon, Urgut and Miraki mountains what gives different objective for view of Uzbekistan. Mountains is not just a collection of rock and dirt it's also source of rare materials, water and home or perfect place for biological multiplication of animals and plants, mountains also provides Uzbekistan with diverse view and lakes providing local and others with source of water.

Moreover, Uzbekistan's network of protected areas, including national parks and nature reserves, harbors a rich biodiversity that can be explored through ecotourism initiatives. These regions offer chances for wildlife viewing and tourism with a conservation focus because they are original home to a variety of local and endangered species which are recorded in red book of endangered species, including the Bukhara deer, the Severtsov's argali, and other bird species.

### **Issues that Uzbekistan facing in eco-tourism**

Even though there is the plenty ecotourism potential in Uzbekistan, the country faces several key problems that must be found solution to provide the sustainable development of this sector. One of the main issues is the need for infrastructure development and capacity building inside the tourism industry. As new developing country Uzbekistan is not developed for purposes of industries such as electricity production, urbanization, international trading, mass production and others only thing that holding Uzbekistan's industry is natural resources. Uzbekistan is now developing because of its rich natural resources many natural places cannot be preserved from destruction because it's making more benefits rather than international and local tourism because of its low rate or few number of visitors.

Another challenge is not educated or developed habits of tourists. Mainly tourists develop like vandalism, littering, destroying and other thread that tourist can make while visiting eco-friendly or environmental places many tourist like to touch or escalate on to the weak and old trees, rocks and mountains what can damage themselves and that place also. In order to solve this issue government or tourism department should attract green tourists or try to develop eco friendly habits through social media in to visitors.

Despite the immense ecotourism potential of Uzbekistan's natural landscapes, there are several significant problems that must be addressed in order to fully expose potential of Uzbekistan. One of the primary obstacles is the country's limited tourism infrastructure. While Uzbekistan has made levels in recent years to develop its tourism sector, many rural and distant areas still lack the basic amenities and services required to accommodate Eco tourists, including eco-friendly transport system, dependable transit, first-rate lodging, and availability of guides and information. It will cost a lot of money and coordination between the public, private, and local communities to close these infrastructural gaps. To address this, the State Committee for Nature Protection has created a "Concept for the development of ecotourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan and its long-term plans." It covers socioeconomic, legal, and organizational factors as well as ecological education and concerns for the country's slow but steady growth in ecotourism. Utilizing nature responsibly for tourism is the aim of ecotourism, which aims to protect the environment and promote sustainable development for both current and future generations.

### **Conclusion**

The natural view of Uzbekistan has enormous potential for the growth of a prosperous ecotourism sector. The nation's varied and beautiful landscapes and natural sites which range from the

majestic Chimyon Mountains to the meltingly hot Ustuyurt ,Kyzyl-Kum Deserts, present many chances for ecotourism tourism. To Understand full potential, though, a number of important issues belongs to local community involvement, environmental preservation, and tourism infrastructure must be fixed by higher individuals or responsibilities’ . Supporting in sustainable development, strengthening conservation problems , and empowering local stakeholders who live around this conservative areas like Ustuyurt desert citizens , Uzbekistan can turn its natural resources into the cornerstone of a thriving and long-lasting ecotourism industry. By doing this, the nation's economy will gain as well as its special and priceless natural heritage will be preserved.

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