#### Location

The Fann mountains lie in the central part of Tajikistan, one of the former Republics of the USSR, now an independent state. The Fann is part of the Gissar-Alia mountain system and is normally considered to occupy the highest and most deeply partitioned part of the Zeravshan ridge. Orographically they are the high mountainous watershed between the Zeravshan and Gissar ridges. Formally they are bounded by the river canyons of Pasrud, Fandaria, Iskanderdaria, Sarytag, Karakul, Chatdara, Shing with the Marguzor chain of lakes, Voru, Archamaidan and Urech.

#### Geology and Relief

The highest part of the Fann lie to the south of the Kulikalon lakes, the highest peak, Mt Chimtarga, being 5489m.; it's ice-covered rugged summit is almost as high as Elbrus. On all sides Chimtarga is surrounded by dozens of fine peaks: Greater and Smaller Ganza, Moskva, Energia and others. 11 of these are higher than 5000m. The Eastern Fann ridge starts at Energia peak and extends east between the Pasrud and Iskanderdaria rivers. The high, but relatively short, Western Fann ridge starts at Miraly summit and stretches between the Voru and Urech rivers to end not far from the Artuch river.

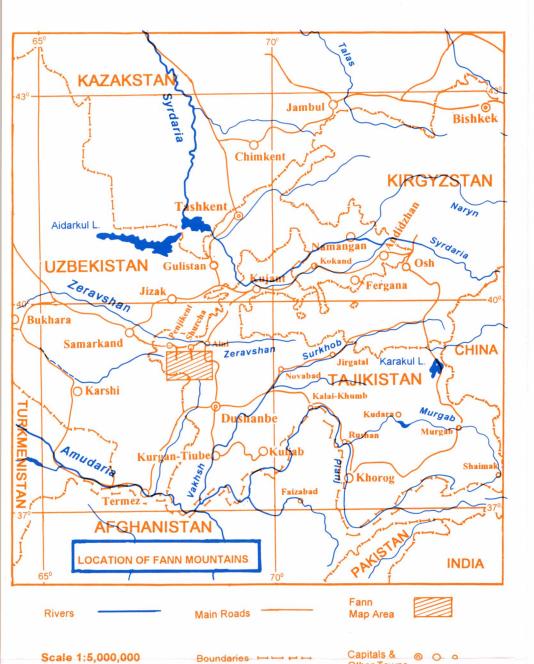
The main Fann ridges are built up of metamorphosed limestones and the secondary ridges of soft shales. The geology of the Fann mountains influences the main relief forms: the rounded slopes of the shale ridges are covered by turf and extensive screes are found in the upper reaches of rivers, at the foot of ridges and on the lower passes. Limestone walls rise high above the valleys, the rock is particularly steep on south faces, where the often vertical cliffs have few crack systems. Glaciers and permanent snow lies above about 3400 m., particularly on the gentler, northern slopes.

#### Climate

The climate of the Fann mountains area is a dry continental one further accentuated by the screening effect of the surrounding high ridges from the moist westerly and north-westerly winds. The annual precipitation is about 260mm, the wettest month being April. At the Alaudin and Kulikalon lakes, which are sheltered from the west by high ridges, precipitation is much less than in the upper reaches of the Arg river. The lower flow of Pasrud, Fandaria, and Lake Iskanderkul are considered arid zones.

In the Fann valleys the climate is moderately warm, the average valley temperature of the warmest month (July) is 15-20°C. Between June and October the weather is normally dry and warm, and the nights at 2500m. are also relatively warm. Winters are mild but long, the average valley temperature of the coldest month (January) is -5 to -7°C. Above about 3000m. the climate is cold and even during the 5 warmest months the average monthly temperature regions rarely rising higher than 1-10°C and snowfall is possible.

In the November-May period the mountain slopes are dangerous on account of the possibility of avalanches and most of the passes are practically impassable.



# Glaciation

Due to the dry climate glaciation is not extensive, though, in the past, it occupied a much larger area. 160 glaciers, covering an area of about 40 sq.km., can be found in the Fann, they are mainly located on the northern slopes of mountains. Most of the glaciers are of the valley-type and many extend about 1.5 to 2 kms. The biggest glacier, Imat (3.2 km. long, 3.8 sq.km. in area), lies at the head of the Pasrud valley. The majority of the glaciers are now in recession.

# **Rivers and Lakes**

Most of the Fann rivers belong to the Zeravshan system, one of the biggest in Central Asia. The Zeravshan flows westwards providing water to the cities located on the eastern edges of the Karakum Desert, these include Bukhara and Samarkand. Further west the river gradually dries up as it is soaked up by the

There are about 30 lakes in the Fann mountains of moraine-glacial and landslide origin. The largest one is Iskanderkul Lake (area is 3.4 sq. km., maximum depth 72m.), it is surrounded by rocky mountains and lies at an altitude of 2209m. The lake owes its origin to a huge landslide which created a dam across the Iskanderdaria river. The name of the lake is usually connected with the Alexander the Great (Iskander is the Persian name for Alexander).

The Iskanderdaria river flows out of the lake by way of a magnificant waterfall almost 40m. high. Narrow terraces on the lake shore suggest much higher levels of water in the past. The highest of these lies 117m. above the present water level. The water is cold even during the hottest days. Some fish can be found in it. The lake is surrounded by brushwood of dog-rose, wild cherry etc.

In the upper flow of Urech river lie the picturesque Kulikalon lakes. They are of moraine-glacial origin, the main one, lying at 2800m., is named Kulikalon (which means 'Big Lake' in Tajik), it is the second largest lake in the Fann. Malyi (Small) Kulikalon is next to the Bolshoi (big) lake. The water in the Malyi lake is warmer than that in the others and it is possible to swim in it. The Kulikalon waters filter out through moraine soils and give birth to Urech river. The highest of the Kulikalon lakes, Dyushakha, lies at 3000m., at the foot of the icy north face of Mt.

On the way from the Archamaidan valley to Kulikalon lakes one comes across three small lakes. The biggest of these is the Chukurak twin-lake. Water from the higher lake cascades into the lower, smaller one. Not far from Chukurak lake there is the small Belove lake, its surface is always covered with water-lilies making it unique in the Fann. 1.5 km. away from Beloye lies the small Ziorat lake. The beautifully coloured Alaudin lakes are located at 2700m. in the upper flow of Chandara river, amongst the highest and most dramatic peaks of the Fann mountains. The main lakes: Chapdara or Bolshoye (Big), Sredneye (Middle), Vostochnoye (Eastern), and Nizhneye (Lower) are connected to each other by the Chandara river which tumbles in several small waterfalls from one lake into the next. In its upper reaches the Chandara river often completely vanishes underground. At the head of the Chandara Valley lies the bleak but magnificently located Mutnye (Murky) lake, fed by the meltwaters of glaciers flowing from Energia and Chimtarga.

In the upper Zindon valley are located the Vierkhny Allo and Bolshoi Allo lakes. The latter was formed geologically recently by a huge landslide which covered the ancient moraine. Water from Bolshoi Allo lake seeps under the landslide for 5 kms. before coming to the surface as the Zindon river. Pack animals are unable to go above Bolshoye Allo, and above an altitude of 3300m. one enters a virtual desert of rock and snow.

The real pearls 'seven beauties' of the Fann mountains are the Marguzor lakes hidden in the Shing river canyon. the seven lakes (Nezhigon, Soya, Gushor, Nofin, Khurdak, Marguzor and Azorchashma) are connected by fast-flowing rivers. These lakes have been formed by landslide dams 50-70m. high. The river waters, after being filtered through the blockages, reach the lakes crystal-clear, but with differing shades of blue and green. The biggest among the lakes, Marguzor, stretches along the canyon for 3 km. The beauty of this lake is emphasised by the snowy summits of Erkhan ridge. On the way to Azorchashma lake there are deep caves and around the lake itself one may find semi-precious stones.

# **Altitude Zoning**

700-2000m.: Mountain Steppe Zone. Here grasses and thorny shrubs prevail. Steppe vegetation is ephemeral and burns away after the spring rains are gone. Where precipitation and relief allow wheat and barley is cultivated on the grey. steppe soils. Above 1200m. drought resisting shrubs and separate trees like the almond-tree, hawthorn, juniper and pistachio-tree grow; in the valleys, apricot, maple-tree, walnut and willow can also be found.

1500-3500m.: Forest Grassland Zone. Here trees and bushes are found alongside steppe and alpine meadows. Mountain slopes are covered mostly by junipers, pistachio-trees, almond-trees and walnut. Juniper (archa) forests first appear at 2200m. and stretch up to the glacier snouts; the biggest are to be found in the Sarymat, Archamaidan, Arg, Chandara, Karakul and Sarytag valleys. Junipers may occur either as small shrubs or as big trees up to 20m. high. Juniper forests are being actively cut by the local population for fuel and construction, especially in the summer season when many of shepards live in temporary

The "alpine" meadows are not found above 4000m. The life cycle of the plants in these meadows is about 1-3 months. The meadows and steppes of the highlands serve as summer pastures. Almost all the domestic animals of the surrounding lowlands are moved here for 3-4 months and with the first cold spell they descend back to the valleys.

Above about 4000m, is the zone of scree deserts, rocks, snowfields and glaciers.

The formerly rich fauna of the Fann mountains is becoming poorer the encroachment of shepards and tourists. The formerly numerous snow leopard has almost vanished, they can now only be found high in the mountains and only go down for water and to hunt. Very rarely lynx can be found in the forests. On the higher grassy mountain sides it is possible to occasionally see a mountain goat (teck) or sheep (dokhar). There are still many rabbits, wolves, bears, foxes, stoats and marmots and wild boars are encountered in canyons.

Birdlife is better preserved and it includes mountain geese (ular), pigeons, eagles and hawks. In the summer, ducks stay at the lakes.

There are some venomous insects and reptiles but these are not numerous. Scorpion bites are not dangerous but very painful. Snakes live only in the lower

#### **Tajikistan**

The Republic of Tajikistan is a state in the south-east of Central Asia, with an area of 143,100 sq.km. 93% of its territory is occupied by mountains. In 1987 the population was almost 5,000,000. According to the 1979 census Tajiks constituted 60% of the population, among major ethnic minorities were Uzbeks and Russians. Administratively, Tajikistan consists of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region, 3 oblasts (first order civil divisions), 45 rayons (second order divisions). The Capital is Dushanbe. It is a parliamentary republic, secular state and most citizens are Muslims.

#### History

The settlement of the present Tajik territory including Central Gissaro-Alai and the Fann mountain area started in prehistoric times. From the 6th-4th century BC the provinces of Bactria and Sogdiana were located in this region of Central Asia and formed part of the Persian Empire. In the 4th century BC this territory came under the rule of Alexander the Great who had destroyed the Persian Empire. In the 2nd century BC, after the overthrow of the Greeks in Bactria, a new state called Tokharistan was formed, which later, together with Sogdiana and other areas of Central Asia was to become the tremendous Kushan Kingdom. The "Silk Road" from China and India led west through Tokharistan to the Hellenic and Roman states. In the 5th century AD Sogdiana and Tokharistan came under the power of the Ephtalites, and in the 6th century AD under nomadic Turkic tribes. At approximately this very time (6th-7th century AD) numerous principalities emerged, but by 8th century AD these principalities were conquered by the Arabs and the present Tajik territory became part of the Baghdad Khaliphate. In 874 AD, after much fighting, a feudal Tailk state ruled by the Samanids, practically independent of Arabs, was formed allowing the Tajik nation to take shape out of the ancient tribes of the Bactrians, Sogdians, Tokhars and others. A single language, Tajik, started to prevail. Samanids experienced a peaceful existence for more than 100 years. This was the real renaissance, which gave to the world such geniuses as the poets Rudaki and Ferdousi and the scientist-encyclopaedist Abu-Ali-Inb-Sina

At the end of the 10th century the Samanids state was invaded and split by invading Turkic tribes. In the northern part of the present Tajikistan, the Karakhanids state was formed and the Ghaznevids state in the south.

At the beginning of the 13th century Central Asia was invaded by Ghenghis Khan. His conquests were split amongst his sons, the main cultural areas of Central Asia thus became possessions of his second son, Chagati. In the 14th century most of the present Tajik territory became part of Timur's (Tamerlain's) Empire. Tamerlain managed to create a great power with Samarkand as its capital. In the 16th century these lands belonged to Bukhara Khanate.

In the 17th and 18th centuries areas inhabited by the Tajiks belonged to different khanates and states. In the 1880's Central Asia was conquered by Russia and it was then that Turkestan was established as a region which included the northern areas of Tajikistan. After the socialist revolution in Russia, in April 1918, the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (ASSR) was created as part of the Russian Federation. In October 1924 the Tajik ASSR was formed as a nation-state subdivisionof the Uzbek SSR. Since 1929 Tajikistan became Tajik SSR as a member of the USSR federation. After the dissolution of the USSR in 1991 the Republic of Tajikistan became an independent state and a member of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

#### **Population and Language**

Tajiks (self-name is tochic) constitutes the majority of the population of Tajikistan. The process of the Tajik Nation formation began in the 4th century AD and ended by the 10th century under the Samanids' state. Anthropologically, Tajiks belong to the European (Caucasian) race. Most typical for them is the Pamirs-Fergana type. They have dark hair and eyes, round head and medium height. Inhabitants of the plains have distinct Mongoloid features.

The Tajik language, together with the very similar Persian, belongs to the south-western group of Iranian languages of the Indo-European language family. Linguists do not find any dialects in the Tajik language at present, they distinguish only several groups according to phonetic and morphological features. The written language is presently based on the Russian alphabet.

Many Tajiks encountered in the mountains are very well educated, most will speak good Russian and a few will speak English, French or German.

#### **Guides and Donkeys**

In most of the major villages in the valleys around the Fann Mountains it is possible to hire donkeys or mules together with handlers. As the animals are required in the daily lives of the local Tajiks it is sometimes difficult to obtain them at short notice - it is best to book them well in advance. Daily hire costs in 1994 were quite reasonable. Local people will not carry luggage as porters.

The mule drivers might not have a good knowledge of areas remote of their villages, in particular they are unlikely to know much about the mountains or about the routes up to harder passes. There are few mountain guides living in the mountains themselves; should a guide be required this can be easily organised in advance through an agent.

#### Accommodation and Food

There are expensive intourist-style hotels in the major Uzbek cities and Dushanbe where service is generally poor and food extremely expensive. Cheap "local" hotels are available but more difficult to locate. The Lonely Planet guide to the CIS (USSR) provides a lot of very useful information about hotels and restaurants. It is generally better to eat at a small tea-house cum restaurant (chaikhana) than at an Intourist hotel

In the mountains very little accommodation is available. There is a fairly cheap, run-down hotel in Penjikent which may or may not have water. The Mountain Lodges, such as Artuch and Iskanderkul, are quite reasonably priced and have basic huts with beds and linen provided, there are twin-bedded and larger rooms available. Restaurant service is of a poor quality. Advance booking is advisable

In the mountains themselves tents are essential. There are plenty of good campsites and the water quality is generally excellent.

the mountains. A wider variety of food is available in the cities but it is difficult to find. Expeditions are advised to bring in as much food as possible and in particular tinned meats or dehydrated meals, chocolates, biscuits etc. It is possible to purchase a goat in the mountains which the locals will prepare. Local agents will

The rains and sun in Spring bring a profusion of flowers and lush grass to the valleys but with summer these dry up and soon the Tajiks are forced to bring their herds of sheep, goats and cattle up from the valleys to the summer mountain pastures. The alpine meadows of the Fann are extremely beautiful but at the same time very vulnerable. In a few isolated areas overgrazing destroys the vegetation almost completely. The once magnificent and extensive Juniper forests are slowly being chopped down. The locals need them as a source of wood for their buildings and for heating and cooking. There are moves being made to restrict grazing and at a few locations mountaineers are forbidden to light fires. In the long term the measures being taken at present are not adequate. Hopefully much stricter controls will be established in the future.

In the past tourists have left mountains behind them - of rubbish. This problem is being gradually addressed and most groups appear to be much more aware of the need to bury or remove their rubbish. It is hoped that visiting mountaineers and tourists are very sensitive to these problems and set a good example as regards rubbish removal (or burying), not burning the juniper and practising good toilet habits.

The majority of the Tajik population, including the Fann mountain region, live in kishlaks (a type of rural settlement). Kishlaks in the mountains differ substantially from those of the plains. Kishlaks in the plains are large (200-700 households), while the mountainous ones, lying in narrow valleys or on slopes, are smaller and do not consist of more than 15-20 households. Many houses in the kishlaks on the slopes of the Fann mountains are located one above the other, and due to the lack of land, the roof of the lower building is used as the yard of the upper house. Due to the lack of good timber, roofs are flat, also high sloping roofs are not necessary here because of low precipitation.

Quite typical for the Fann mountains in summer are numerous seasonal shepherds' camps, grazing sheep and goats on the high meadows. Tajiks are very hospitable and often treat tourists to tea, home-made bread and dairy produce.

The inhabitants of Kishlaks, particularly in the mountainous regions, have retained folk clothes. Female costumes consists of long, white or coloured cotton or silk, dresses and wide trousers tied at the ankles. They often wear tubeteika (small hats) and large white muslin or silk scarves. They decorate themselves with beads and coin and coral necklaces. The men's costume usually consists of a shirt, wide trousers, robe, waistscarf and tubeteika.

Tajik families are usually big and 5-6 children in the family are quite normal.

(meat soup), pasta and sour milk. The favourite meal is plov, this consists of rice, meat and vegetables cooked in vegetable oil or sheep fat. The main drink is green tea. Dry fruit, sweets and bread are served with tea.

Be very careful when taking photographs - some locals find this very offensive or intrusive, particularly the women.

Bread, vegetables and some fruits may be bought in the towns and villages around organise basic food supplies for you in advance if required.

#### Conservation and Rubbish

### **Countryside and Traditions**

Local diet is traditional. Bread is made as flat cakes and is served with shurbo

# Scale 1:100,000 RIDGES, PASSES, SUMMITS & GLACIERS Pasruddaria Zurmech P. 3260 1a 3340 1a Saryshah Talbas P. 3740 1a Surkhob P. ierkhni Amshut P Ganzy Siedlo P. Akhdasoi

# **Mountains and Passes**

Names of mountains and passes are often Russian names, it is likely that some of these might be changed in the future to Tajik names.

No adequate english language guidebook is available. The following list of routes on major summits is provided to assist skilled mountaineers in their choice of approach. Mountain wisdom and/or further local information are required to supplement this information! Russian grade equivalents are approximately as

Russian	French	UIAA
1a, 1b	F - PD inf	1-11
2a, 2b	PD	11-111
3a	PD - AD	III
3b	AD - D	III-IV
4a, 4b	D - TD	IV-V
5a, 5b	TD - ED inf	VI
6	ED	VI upwards

Route Type: r = rock, sn = snow, i = ice, m = mixed rock, snow & ice

е	r = rock, sn =	snov	$\mathbf{w}$ , $\mathbf{i} = \mathrm{ice}$ , $\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{i}$	mixed r	ock, snow
	Adamtash	4700	from SE bowl	2a	m
			NW wall	5b	141
			From Dukdon Glacier	3a	
	2.000		S wall	4b	
			SW couloir	2a	
			from N	2a	
			from S	5a	
			W wall	4b	
			from Amshut Pass	5b	r
	5 200 000 000 000		SE ridge	1b	r
			N ridge	3b	r
	The state of the s		NW wall, NE wall	5a	r
		4700	NW ridge	3a	i-sn
	Bielaya Piramida		from SE cirque	2a	i-sn
	Biely Bars	4505	S ridge	3b	r
	Biob	4400	W ridge	1b	r
	Blok	4500	from Dvoinoi Pass	3a	r
	Bodhona	5138	SE ridge	5a	r
	Bodhona	5138	SW wall, E wall	5b	r
	Chapdara	5050	many routes	5b	m
	Chapdara	5050	right part of NW wall	5a	m
	Chimtarga	5487	W or S wall	5b	r
	Chimtarga	5487	from N	2b	i-sn
	Diamar	4000	NW ridge	3b	r
	Diamar	4000	NW	5a	r
	Dukdon	5208	centre of N wall	5b	
			N wail	5a	
	Dukdon - lower	5090	centre of N wall	5b	
	Dundandon	4200	I part of N wall	3h	r

**5105** N ridge Energia 5105 NE or W wall **Fagitor** 3900 S ridge 4350 W ridge 4400 SW ridge **4167** NW ridge Kaltsit Khazormech 3900 NE wall **4767** W ridge Khoja Lokan Khuchirud 5b m 4970 many routes Maria 4970 N ridge 4b m Mirali **5120** NW wall 5b m Niezamietnaya 4808 from Utreny 3b i-sn **4113** W ridge 1b r Pakhkamber 4958 W ridge 4a m Bolshaya Ganza 5306 W ridge 2b i-sn 5010 centre of NE wall 5b r Pik Krasny Zor 4951 S ridge from Biob Pass 3b r Pik Malaya Ganza 5031 From Surkhob gorge 2b i-sn Pik Malaya Ganza 5031 NW slope 2a i-sn Pik Moskva 5183 N wall by glacier 5b m Promejutochnyi 4810 NE ridge 3b m Pik Sievierny **4200** W ridge 3a r Pik Sievierny **4200** N ridge 2b r 4600 NW ridge 3b r **Politeknik** 4400 left of NW wall 5a r Politeknik 4400 SW ridge 3b r **Pushnovat** 4573 from N 2b i-sn Ruzi-Ravat 3700 E ridge 1b r Ruzi-Ravat 3700 from S **4650** from S Saryshah 4650 right part of NE or NW wall 5b r Saryshah 3899 S side of W ridge Selegrad Sibiriak 4900 NW ridge 4a m Skalnaya Stiena 4800 from Dvojnoj pass 4a r Skalnaya Stiena 4800 N wall 5a r Vilnus 4120 SW wall Zamok 5070 from W, then S ridge 2a sn 5070 N wall Zamok 5b m Zamok 5070 W wall 5a r Zierat 3800 from W Zierat 3800 N ridge

Passes are graded using a different system to the one above. NC (Not Classified): a comfortable pack-animal or even vehicle track. 1a: possibly steep and rough path but traversable generally by pack-animals. 1b: might require some scrambling or the use of ice axe and crampons. 2a and 2b: requires easy technical climbing and good snow and ice techniques. **3a**: involves a variety of technical difficulties and possible objective danger. **3b**: sustained difficulties and/or serious objective dangers.

**MAP & GUIDE** to the **FANN MOUNTAINS** 

> **Tadjikistan Topographical** 1:100,000



EWP - GB

## Some Useful Tajik and RussianWords

Taiik

Russian English

English	гајік	Russian   English   Tajik		Russiali	
one	jak	odin	L	man	ya
two	du	dva	you (sing.)	tu <sup>3</sup>	tyi
three	se	tri	he	unkas	on
four	chor	chetyreh	we	mohon	myi
five	panch	piat	you (plr.)	shumoro	vyi
six	shash	shest	they	onho	oni
seven	haf	siem	mountain	kuh	gora
eight	hash	vosiem	river	dario	rieka
nine	nu	dieviat	lake	kul	oziero
ten	da	diesiat	glacier		liednik
hundred	sad	sto	wood		lies
thousand	hazor	tysiacha	juniper	archa	mozhevielnik
hello (peace)	sallom1	zdrastvuitie	water	ob	voda
please		pozhalsta	spring	chainma	rodnik
thank you	rahmat	spasibo	sky	osmom	niebo
goodbye	hudo hofis2	dosvidania	bread	non	hlieb
good	hud	harasho	sugar	shakar	sakhar
bad	ganda	plokho	fire	otash	ogon
man	mart	muzhchina	place	maidan	miesto
woman	zan	zhenshchina	rock	sang	skala
boy	bacha	malchik	hot	garm	goriachyi
girl	duhtar	dievochka	cold	hunuk	kholodny
cheese	panir	syr	warm		tioplyi
yoghurt	iron		today		sievodnia
milk	shir	moloko	tomorrow		zavtra
kefir	chaka		yesterday		fchera
goat	buz	koza	night	shab	noch
dog	sag	sabaka	day	ruz	dien
donkey	ishak	osiol	yes	ha	da
to drink	nushidan	piit	no	niest	niet
to eat	hurdan	iest	big	kalon	bolshoi
			small	maida	malyi
•	•		76		

sallom alaykum - peace upon you, requires the response: va alaykum sallom (va <sup>3</sup> tu is used to elders, otherwise use shumo = and) <sup>2</sup> allah praise to you

# Access, Visas and Permits

There are frequent international flights from London and some other major cities to Tashkent in Uzbekistan. The alternative is to fly via Moscow to Dushanbe, Tashkent. Direct flights from outside of the CIS directly to Dushanbe are being developed. Travel by train from Moscow, though possible, cannot be recommended

Fairly regular buses service all the major Uzbek cities. Train services exist between Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhara. However buses operating between Samarkand, Penjikent and Dushanbe are infrequent and crowded. It is very difficult to obtain public transport from Penjikent or Dushanbe to either Iskanderkul,

Taxis are available in Uzbekistan but fairly expensive by local standards. In Tajikistan taxis are expensive and fuel is scarce.

It is probably best to hire your own vehicle and ideally you should make arrangements in advance with the help of a local agent or operator.

In 1994 visas were required for Tajikistan, these can be obtained through the Russian Embassy but require an official invitation from a Tajik organisation.

The Fann Mountains are gradually becoming a more controlled and protected area. The government is in the process of setting up a system of entry permits which are presently reasonably priced. Details of permits required and entry procedures are best obtained via an agent such as GB or EWP, or from the Tajik Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

# **Useful Contacts**

Tajik Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Moscow 095 2905281. Their approval is required for all visa applications. Russian Embassy, 5 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QS, Tel. 071

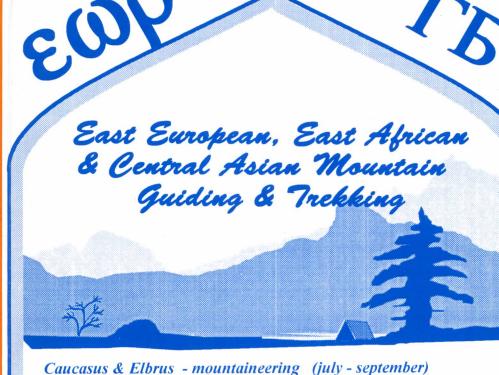
229 8027. Visa information. Aeroflot, London. Tel. 071 355 2233. CIS internal flight information.

EWP. 32 Seamill Park Crescent, Worthing, BN11 2PN. Tel. 0903 237565, Fax.

Eastern Europe and East Africa. Communication assistance with Tajik Organisations: Discuss your project with EWP and/or present a clear and detailed typewritten enquiry. EWP (see above) will ensure your enquiries reach Tajikistan, and that you receive an answer. Communication fee: £30 (outside of UK), £20 within UK. Cheques payable to

0903 239660. Mountain walking and climbing in Tajikistan, the CIS generally,

Geographic Bureau, 100051 PO BOX 30, St. Petersburg, Russia, Tel. & Fax. 812 2957900. Adventure travel in Central Asia and the CIS.



Ski-touring and heli-skiing in the Caucasus (february - may) Fann Mountains, Bukhara & Samarkand - treks (july - september) The Pamir - high altitude mountaineering (july - august) Deserts, mountains & ancient cities, Turkmenia (april & october) High Tatra, Cracow, Prague - lodge treks (may to september) Climbing Kilimanjaro & Tanzanian Game Parks Climbing Mount Kenya & wilderness treks in Kenya The Ruwenzori & Mount Elgon - mountaineering

We offer scheduled departures and also tailor trips for private groups. We have organised school trips to almost all of the above locations. Student Gap Year programmes. Technical climbing services available.

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Box 30, St. Petersburg, Russia, Tel. & Fax. 812 2957900