



In early December 2016, the president signed a resolution securing the accelerated development of tourism in Uzbekistan. The document provides for the development of the hotel business, transport system, related services, and the simplification of customs procedures. The government approved a programme to create a special tourist zone in the city of Samarkand in 2017.

In this brochure, provide an overview of the simplification of registration, licensing and operating regulations for the hotel industry. In addition, we discuss the activities of international airlines.

Hotel business

The presidential resolution exempts tour operators from compulsory sale of hard currency and reduces the mandatory sale to 25% for hotels. In addition, companies operating four-star hotels and above have a five-year exemption from corporate income tax, land tax, property tax, and the single tax payment.

At the end of June 2017, the government approved a programme to develop the tourism potential of the city of Samarkand and the surrounding region, which involves the large-scale construction and development of hotel facilities and related services in the new tourist zone. Developers will be exempt from land tax, profit and infrastructure taxes, unified tax payment and school and road fund contributions. They will also be exempt from customs payments on equipment, raw materials, components, construction materials and other materials not produced in Uzbekistan imported for own needs.

A number of acts implementing positive changes to the exchange of foreign currency earnings for hotels have also been put in place.

International Passenger Airlines

Another key factor is the development of passenger air transportation. To this end, many airports in Uzbekistan are being upgraded to accommodate the many international airlines operating in the country through representative offices.

Local law prescribes a different ticket sale procedure for representative offices, specifically the registration of a permanent establishment, which gives rise to an obligation to file frequent tax reports. Double Tax Agreements may be able to minimise any tax burden.

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Should you have any questions about the information provided above or any other questions regarding operations in Uzbekistan, please do not hesitate to contact any of our team members.

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