

Turkmenistan

May 2018: This former Central Asian Soviet Republic sets on the Karakum Desert. It is surrounded by Iran, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and the Caspian Sea. Most of the five million Turkmen are nomads living under a repressive personality cult of the previous and current presidents. Buildings in the capital, Ashgabat are covered with a facade of white marble and gasoline is 30 cents a gallon, thanks to an abundant supply of natural gas. The ancient cities of Darvaza, Mary and Merv set along the old Silk Road and contain a number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



Former President Niyazov



Statue of Liberty



Ashgabat Airport



President Gurbanguly



Wedding Palace



Golden Mosque



Ladies of Ashgabat



Police Station



Winner



Horse Ranch



Ranch Owner



Butcher Shop



Merv



Darvaza – The Gates of Hell