

# ANCIENT SILK ROAD GEOGRAPHY

Major Trading Hubs, Terrain, and Regional Commodities

Route Span: ~6,400 Kilometers Period: Han Dynasty - Ottoman Empire Primary Focus: Transcontinental Exchange

REGION	MAJOR HUBS	GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES	KEY EXCHANGES
East Asia	Chang'an (Xi'an), Dunhuang	Loess Plateau, Gobi Desert edge, Hexi Corridor	Silk, tea, porcelain, paper, lacquerware
Central Asia	Kashgar, Samarkand, Bukhara	Pamir Mountains, Fergana Valley, Kyzylkum Desert	Horses, lapis lazuli, cotton, glass, nuts
South Asia	Taxila, Mathura, Barbaricum	Hindu Kush, Indus River Valley, Thar Desert	Spices, sandalwood, ivory, gems, textiles
Middle East	Merv, Rayy, Baghdad, Palmyra	Iranian Plateau, Zagros Mountains, Syrian Desert	Saffron, dates, frankincense, silver, carpets
Mediterranean	Antioch, Constantinople, Rome	Taurus Mountains, Anatolian Plateau, Coastal Ports	Wine, olive oil, gold, glassware, wool

Print Study Guide