

Afghanistan Closed Bridge



Article Overview

The Afghanistan-Uzbekistan Friendship Bridge, closed in 2021, has been fully reopened for travel and trade as of December 2025.

Overview

The Afghanistan-Uzbekistan Friendship Bridge is a road-rail bridge spanning the Amu Darya (Oxus) River, connecting Hairatan in Afghanistan with Termez in Uzbekistan. Built by the Soviet Union and opened in 1982, it originally served as a military supply route during the Soviet-Afghan War and later became a key trade and travel link between the two countries . It is the only fixed crossing along the Afghanistan-Uzbekistan border, located about 75 kilometers north of Mazar-i-Sharif .

Closure and Reopening

The bridge was closed to travelers in August 2021 following the Taliban's return to power, although limited trade continued and Afghans could access the Uzbek free-trade zone of Aritom . The closure forced travelers and traders to take a longer detour through Tajikistan, significantly increasing travel time between Hairatan and Mazar-i-Sharif . After more than four years, the bridge was reopened in December 2025, allowing citizens of both countries to cross directly and safely. Visa requirements remain in effect, but the reopening is expected to greatly facilitate trade and passenger movement .

Economic and Trade Significance...

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Pakistan has partially reopened the Torkham border crossing with Afghanistan, allowing thousands of stranded Afghan

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Iran can no longer take access to the Persian Gulf for granted and may hedge its trade to overland routes through Afghanistan.

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Six of these bridges, which will remain in place for the foreseeable future, have been constructed close to

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Afghanistan-Uzbekistan Friendship Bridge

At the end of the war it was the site of the final withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan on February 15, 1989. The bridge

Oct 02, 2025

Pakistani, Afghan Taliban forces trade fire at Torkham border crossing ...

A soldier of Afghan Taliban forces stands guard close to the Torkham border of Nangarhar province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan,

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Golden Gate was a Regional Command-Southwest, or RC-SW, combined-joint engineering mission to construct a

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Taliban destroy bridge in Herat, cutting off vital transportation route

Taliban destroy bridge in Herat, cutting off vital transportation route The main bridge from Obe district to Herat city is

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Agricultural produce from farms and villages scattered on the western side of the river is transported over the bridge to reach markets

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Pakistan and Afghanistan border shut for second day | AP News

Officials say the closure of border crossings for bilateral trade between Afghanistan and Pakistan has extended into a second day

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Afghanistan Faces Trade Crisis Due To Pak Border Closure & Hormuz ...

After border crossings with Pakistan were closed, Afghanistan shifted much of its trade through Bandar Abbas Port of

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Afghanistan-Uzbekistan Friendship Bridge

The Afghanistan-Uzbekistan Friendship Bridge in 2010 An Afghan Border Police officer standing on the Afghan side of the bridge in

Jun 12, 2026

Torkham Border Remains Closed For Seventh Day, Stranding

Despite multiple rounds of negotiations between Taliban and Pakistani border officials, no agreement has been

Nov 24, 2025

BBC NEWS | South Asia | Afghanistan's Soviet remnants

It took a call to an Afghan military commander, a chat with a police chief, a nod to a governor, and tea with a spook but

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List of bridges in Afghanistan

List of bridges in Afghanistan Historical and architectural interest bridges ... Major road and railway bridges

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Tajik-Afghan bridge at Panji Poyon

The Tajikistan-Afghanistan bridge spanning the Panj River between Panji Poyon (or Nizhniy Pyandzh), Tajikistan and Sherkhan

Nov 27, 2025

Afghan media: The Silk Bridge border crossing between Afghanistan

Afghan media: The Silk Bridge border crossing between Afghanistan and Iran has reopened to all forms of traffic after

Mar 18, 2026

As Afghanistan's Border With Pakistan Remains Closed, The

The closure of Afghanistan and Pakistan borders since October has severely impacted millions of residents and

Feb 27, 2026

Abrisham Bridge on Iran-Afghanistan border reopens

As a result, Abrisham Bridge, the busiest border between Iran and Afghanistan, was closed. According to reports, the

Oct 12, 2025

The Reality of Afghanistan's Land Link With China

Looking at Afghanistan's map, one observes a narrow strip of land protruding northeastward out of its northern part.

May 12, 2026

Uzbekistan reopens border crossing with Afghanistan

Uzbekistan has reopened its only border crossing with Afghanistan since the Taliban takeover, aiming to boost trade

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