Central Asia is a landlocked region in western Asia that encompasses a part of the former Soviet Union and modern-day countries in Western China. Central Asia is bordered by Russia on the north, Kazakhstan on the east, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan, and Afghanistan on the south, and Pakistan on the west. The region is home to several major mountains, including the Tien Shan, Pamirs, and Altai, and is characterized by a dry climate with high temperatures in summer and very low temperatures in winter. The region’s economy is based on agriculture and mining, with cotton, wheat, and livestock farming being the major agricultural activities, and coal, copper, and gold being the main minerals extracted. Central Asia is also known for its rich cultural heritage, with a blend of Eastern and Western influences, and a variety of languages and religions.