

Kazakhstan & Kyrgyzstan Tour

Almaty – Charyn Canyon – Kaindy Lake – Saty Village – Kolsay Lake – Karakol – Jety-Oguz Gorge – Barskoon Gorge – Skazka Canyon – Bokonbaevo – Kochkor – Son-Kul Lake – Naryn – Kel-Suu Lake – Kochkor – Bishkek

DURATION

13 Days

DESTINATIONS

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan

TRAVEL STYLE

Cultural / Nature

SUPPORT

Two-country logistics, mountain routes, border crossing & local guides

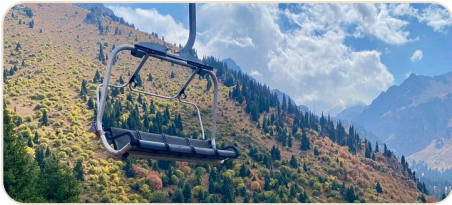
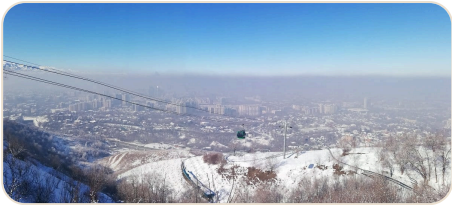
Overview

This 13-day Kazakhstan & Kyrgyzstan Tour combines two of Central Asia's most scenic countries in one carefully planned route. The journey starts in Almaty, follows Kazakhstan's mountain and canyon landscapes, crosses into Kyrgyzstan, and continues through lakes, gorges, nomadic pastures and cultural towns before finishing in Bishkek.

The itinerary balances city sightseeing, natural landmarks and local cultural experiences. Travelers visit Almaty, Medeo, Shymbulak, Charyn Canyon, Kaindy and Kolsay lakes, Karakol, Jety-Oguz, Skazka Canyon, Son-Kul Lake, Kel-Suu Lake, Kochkor, Ala-Archa National Park and Bishkek.

This tour is suitable for travelers who want more than a city-to-city route. It includes mountain roads, guesthouses, yurt camps, village stays, short walks, cultural demonstrations and remote lake scenery, so guests should be comfortable with active travel and changing accommodation styles.

Tour Highlights



Prices

TRAVELERS	PRICE PER PERSON
3* hotel, 2 travelers	\$3,107
3* hotel, 4 travelers	\$2,157
3* hotel, 6 travelers	\$1,887
4* hotel, 2 travelers	\$3,235
4* hotel, 4 travelers	\$2,285
4* hotel, 6 travelers	\$2,014

Prices vary by hotel category, group size and season. Final quotation is confirmed after inquiry.

Itinerary

DAY 01	Arrival in Almaty, Kazakhstan Arrive at Almaty International Airport and meet your driver for the transfer to the hotel. After check-in, take time to rest from the journey. Depending on arrival time, dinner can be arranged at a local restaurant and the evening is free to settle in before the tour begins.
DAY 02	Almaty City Sightseeing Begin exploring Almaty with some of the city's best-known landmarks. The route may include Panfilov Park, Zenkov Cathedral, the World War II memorial and eternal flame, Green Bazaar, the Central Mosque and Republic Square. Later, take the cable car to Kok-Tobe Hill for a panoramic view over the city and surrounding mountains.

DAY 03**Almaty – Medeo – Shymbulak – Almaty**

Travel into the Trans-Ili Alatau mountains to visit Medeo Gorge and the famous high-altitude skating rink area. Stop near the Medeo dam for mountain views, then continue to Shymbulak ski resort and ride the gondola for a wider view of the alpine landscape. Return to Almaty in the afternoon for additional sightseeing or free time.

DAY 04**Almaty – Charyn Canyon – Kaindy Lake – Saty Village**

Leave Almaty and drive toward Charyn Canyon, one of Kazakhstan's most dramatic natural landscapes. Walk through the canyon area and enjoy the unusual rock formations shaped by wind and time. Continue to Saty village, then transfer by local vehicle toward Kaindy Lake, known for its submerged spruce trees and mountain setting. Overnight in a guesthouse in Saty.

DAY 05**Saty Village – Kolsay Lake – Karakol, Kyrgyzstan**

Visit Kolsay Lake, often described as one of the pearls of the northern Tian Shan. Enjoy a short walk near the first lake, with optional boating when available. Later, continue toward the Kazakhstan–Kyrgyzstan border near Kegen and Karkara. After crossing into Kyrgyzstan, drive through scenic mountain landscapes to Karakol. In the evening, enjoy a local dinner experience.

DAY 06**Karakol – Jety-Oguz – Barskoon – Skazka Canyon – Bokonbaevo**

Start with sightseeing in Karakol, including the wooden Russian Orthodox Church, Dungan Mosque and local bazaar if timing allows. Continue to Jety-Oguz Gorge, famous for its red rock formations and alpine meadows. Visit Barskoon Gorge and learn about yurt-making traditions, then stop at Skazka, or Fairy Tale Canyon, before reaching Bokonbaevo for an overnight stay near the southern shore of Issyk-Kul Lake.

DAY 07**Bokonbaevo – Kochkor – Son-Kul Lake**

Meet a local eagle hunter and learn about the traditional Kyrgyz practice of hunting with golden eagles. Continue to Kochkor for lunch, then drive into the mountains toward Son-Kul Lake, a high-altitude lake surrounded by summer pastures. The evening introduces the rhythm of nomadic life, with dinner and overnight in a yurt camp.

DAY 08**Son-Kul Lake – Naryn**

Spend the morning around Son-Kul Lake and enjoy a horse-riding experience with a local horse guide. The surrounding pastureland is dotted with yurts, livestock and wide mountain views. After lunch at the camp, drive to Naryn, a mountain town set along the Naryn River, and overnight at a hotel.

DAY 09**Naryn – Kel-Suu Lake**

Depart early for the remote Kel-Suu Lake area, close to the Chinese border zone. This high mountain region is known for its unusual green-blue lake, dramatic cliffs and open pastures. Walk or optionally ride by horse toward the lake area, enjoy a picnic-style lunch and explore the scenery before returning to the yurt camp for dinner and overnight.

DAY 10**Kel-Suu Lake – Kochkor**

Enjoy the peaceful morning atmosphere of the Ak-Sai Valley, where nomadic families and shepherds spend the summer season with their animals. Later, drive back toward Kochkor. On arrival, take part in a traditional felt carpet demonstration, where local women explain how shyrdak carpets are made. Dinner and overnight in a guesthouse, with possible folklore elements in the evening.

DAY 11**Kochkor – Burana Tower – Bishkek**

After breakfast, drive toward Burana Tower, an important historical complex connected with the ancient city of Balasagun. Continue with a local family lunch and, when arranged in advance, an introduction to Kok-Boru, Kyrgyzstan's famous horseback team game. Arrive in Bishkek, check in at the hotel and enjoy free time in the capital.

DAY 12**Bishkek – Ala-Archa National Park – Bishkek City Tour**

Travel to Ala-Archa National Park, a mountain gorge close to Bishkek where travelers can enjoy fresh air, alpine scenery and an easy walk of around one to one and a half hours. Return to Bishkek for lunch and continue with city sightseeing, including Osh Bazaar, Ala-Too Square, Victory Square, the old square with Lenin statue, Oak Park and the Central Mosque.

DAY 13**Bishkek Departure**

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and transfer to the airport according to your flight schedule. This concludes your Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan journey through cities, canyons, lakes, mountain pastures and local cultural traditions.

What is Included

- Transportation during the 13-day route by SUV for smaller groups or Mercedes Sprinter for larger groups, according to final group size
- Airport pick-up and drop-off according to the itinerary
- Accommodation based on twin-sharing rooms in hotels, guesthouses and yurt camps listed or similar category properties
- English-speaking guide or English-speaking driver-guide according to the final arrangement
- Meals as mentioned in the confirmed program
- Excursions and entrance fees according to the itinerary
- Listed cultural and nature activities, including Shymbulak gondola, eagle hunting demonstration, yurt-making experience and felt carpet demonstration
- Permissions for natural parks and protected areas included in the route
- Horseback riding at Son-Kul Lake for approximately 3 hours with a horse guide
- Border permission for the Kel-Suu Lake area
- Bottled spring water, 1.5 liters per person per day
- Local taxes and small memorable souvenirs when provided by the local team

Not Included

- International flights before and after the tour
- Early check-in in Almaty or other hotels unless confirmed in advance
- Meals in cities or restaurants not clearly mentioned in the program
- Optional horse rental at Kel-Suu Lake, listed by the reference program at approximately 35 USD per horse
- Alcoholic drinks in restaurants or camps
- Personal expenses, hotel extras, laundry, phone calls and optional activities
- Travel medical insurance
- Tips for guides, drivers, horse guides and service staff
- Any services not specifically listed as included in the confirmed program

FAQ

Is this Kazakhstan & Kyrgyzstan tour exactly 13 days?

Yes. This version is structured as a 13-day route starting in Almaty and ending in Bishkek. The final timing may be adjusted slightly according to arrival, departure and border conditions.

What type of accommodation is used?

The route combines city hotels, village guesthouses and yurt camps. This is part of the travel experience, especially around Son-Kul and Kel-Suu.

Is the tour suitable for first-time visitors?

Yes, but it is best for travelers who are comfortable with mountain roads, simple yurt-camp facilities, border crossing, changing hotels and several active sightseeing days.

When is the best season for this tour?

The reference season is May to October. High mountain areas such as Son-Kul and Kel-Suu are most comfortable in the warmer months, but weather can still be cold at altitude.

Do I need a visa for both countries?

Visa requirements depend on your nationality. Many travelers have simplified entry to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, but we check the latest rules based on your passport and travel dates.

Can the tour be customized?

Yes. The route can be adapted by hotel category, group size, activity level, extra nights, private transfers or special cultural experiences.



KAZAKHSTAN & KYRGYZSTAN TOUR

Plan Your Central Asia Journey

Contact us for updated availability, final price confirmation, visa guidance and custom travel planning.

TOUR ROUTE

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