

Turkmenistan Highlights Tour

Ashgabat – Mary – Merv – Ashgabat – Darvaza – Nisa – Gokdepe – Ashgabat

DURATION

7 Days

DESTINATIONS

Turkmenistan

TRAVEL STYLE

Private

SUPPORT

LOI support, local registration, desert camp
& private guide

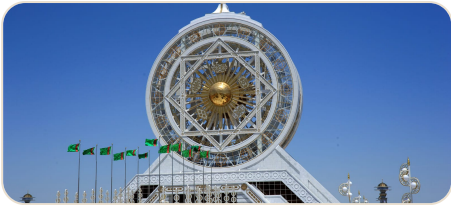
Overview

This 7-day Turkmenistan Highlights Tour brings together the country's most important cultural, historical and natural experiences in one compact private itinerary. The route includes the white-marble capital of Ashgabat, the UNESCO-listed ruins of Ancient Merv, the Karakum Desert and the famous Darvaza Gas Crater.

The journey also introduces the Parthian heritage of Old Nisa, the history of Gokdepe, the national pride of Akhalteke horses and a warm local family experience where travelers can discover Turkmen clothing, carpet weaving, felt making, bread baking and traditional dishes.

This tour is suitable for travelers who want a clear and well-supported introduction to Turkmenistan with private transfers, an English-speaking guide, desert overnight experience, city sightseeing and assistance with local travel formalities.

Tour Highlights



Prices

TRAVELERS	PRICE PER PERSON
2 travelers	\$1,345
4 travelers	\$1,175
6 travelers	\$1,135

Prices are per person based on double or twin room accommodation. Single supplement: USD 205. Final quotation is confirmed after inquiry.

Itinerary

DAY 01

Arrival in Ashgabat and City Tour

Arrive at Ashgabat International Airport, complete arrival formalities and meet the local team for transfer to your hotel with early check-in. In the afternoon, begin your introduction to Ashgabat, a capital known for its bright white-marble architecture and wide ceremonial avenues. Visit major landmarks such as the Olympic Stadium area, Independence Monument and Park, the main flagpole, Arch of Neutrality, Constitution Monument, Ferris Wheel, Wedding Palace viewpoint, Halk Hakydasy Memorial Complex, Alabay Monument and Ertogrul Gazy Mosque. Overnight in Ashgabat.

DAY 02

Ashgabat – Mary – Ancient Merv

After breakfast, drive east toward Mary and continue to Ancient Merv, one of the great historical centers of the Silk Road and an important city of the Islamic world. After lunch in Mary, explore the archaeological zone with sites such as Greater and Lesser Kyz Gala, the Askhabs Complex, Erk Gala, Gyaurl Gala, Hoja Yusup Hamadani Complex, Sultan Sanjar Mausoleum and Muhamed Ibn Zeid Mausoleum. Return to Mary for dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 03**Mary City Highlights – Return to Ashgabat**

Begin the day with a short sightseeing tour of Mary, including the city center, Mary Inspirational Palace, Mary Library, Mary Grand Mosque, Mary Bazaar and one of the oldest Russian Orthodox churches in Turkmenistan. After lunch at a local restaurant, drive back to Ashgabat. Dinner is served at a local restaurant, followed by overnight at the hotel.

DAY 04**Carpet Museum, Old Ashgabat Walk and Darvaza Gas Crater**

Visit the Turkmen Carpet Museum, home to rare examples of traditional carpet designs from different Turkmen tribes and remarkable handwoven carpets, including large-scale pieces recognized internationally. Continue with a walking tour through the historic part of Ashgabat, starting near the Magtymguly Drama Theater and passing the Lenin Statue, State Central Archive building, Ashgabat Mayor's Office and Russian Bazaar. The walk continues toward Inspiration Park, known for its statues of Turkmen poets. In the afternoon, drive across the Karakum Desert to Darvaza. Visit the water, mud and burning gas craters when conditions allow. In the evening, settle into a traditional yurt camp and enjoy a barbecue dinner near the glowing Darvaza Gas Crater.

DAY 05**Darvaza – Ashgabat and Evening City Tour**

Enjoy a simple picnic-style breakfast in the desert before driving back to Ashgabat. After lunch at a local restaurant, check in at the hotel and take time to rest and freshen up. Later in the afternoon, visit the Halk Hakydasy National Memorial Complex, which includes memorials connected with the 1948 earthquake, World War II and other important chapters of Turkmen history. In the evening, take a short night tour of Ashgabat to see the city illuminated before dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 06**Old Nisa, Gokdepe, and Akhalteke Horses**

After breakfast, visit Old Nisa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site connected with the early Parthian kingdom. Continue to Gokdepe Fortress, remembered for its role in Turkmen resistance during the Russian Empire's advance, and visit the Saparmyrat Hajy Mosque, known for its turquoise roof and white-marble design. On the way back to Ashgabat, stop at the Turkmenbashi Ruhi Mosque and Mausoleum. Overnight in Ashgabat.

DAY 07**Departure from Ashgabat**

Breakfast at the hotel. Depending on your departure schedule, transfer to Ashgabat International Airport or continue with any additional arrangements booked separately. This concludes your Turkmenistan Highlights Tour.

What is Included

- Letter of invitation support
- Local registration in Ashgabat when required by the program
- Accommodation in double or twin rooms: 5 nights in Ashgabat 4-star BB hotel and 1 night in Mary 4-star BB hotel, or similar category properties

- English-speaking escort guide service
- Entrance tickets to sightseeing places mentioned in the program
- Meals according to the final confirmed program
- 1.5 liters of bottled water per person per day
- Travel tax: USD 2 per person per night
- One overnight desert experience near Darvaza Gas Crater with dinner

Not Included

- International flights
- Turkmenistan visa and border fees, usually around USD 70–100 depending on current procedures
- Photo and video fees where applicable
- Tips for guide, driver and service staff
- Personal travel insurance or medical insurance
- Personal expenses, hotel extras and optional activities
- Services not clearly mentioned in the program
- PCR, express test or health-related fees if required at the time of travel

FAQ

Is this a private tour?

Yes. This itinerary is designed as a private guided tour and can be adjusted for couples, families or small groups.

Is the Letter of Invitation included?

Yes. Letter of invitation support is included as part of the listed services. Visa fees and border fees are not included.

What kind of accommodation is used?

The quoted version is based on 4-star BB hotels in Ashgabat and Mary, using double or twin rooms. The Darvaza section includes a simple desert overnight experience.

What should I expect at Darvaza Gas Crater?

Darvaza is a remote desert experience. Facilities are simple, but the main highlight is seeing the burning gas crater in the evening and at night.

Are the driving times fixed?

Driving times are approximate and may change because of road conditions, traffic, stops and local procedures.

Do I need cash in Turkmenistan?

Yes. Cash is strongly recommended because card payments may not work in many places. Small USD banknotes in good condition are useful for airport and local procedures.

Can the program change because of local conditions?

Yes. The route may be adjusted slightly because of road conditions, opening hours, flight schedules or official procedures, while keeping the main sightseeing program as close as possible to the confirmed itinerary.



TURKMENISTAN HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

Plan Your Central Asia Journey

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

TOUR ROUTE

Ashgabat – Mary – Merv – Ashgabat – Darvaza – Nisa – Gokdepe – Ashgabat

WEBSITE

belettravel.com

EMAIL

info@belettravel.com

WHATSAPP

+99363229627

Belet Travel

Tailor-made journeys across Central Asia
