

Patterns of nomadic people

Cultural Tour
Duration: 8 Days
Season: April – October



Kyrgyz handicrafts have been made through the ages and are bound up with the necessities and the nomadic lifestyle of the Kyrgyz people. The aspirations of the Kyrgyz people for beauty led them to create different kinds of handicrafts, such as, felt carpets with patterns and commodities of felt; patterned, woven mats of steppe plants - Chee, wrapped around by colorful woolen yarn, patterned weavings, embroidery (leather, felt, wool, silk and cotton cloth), kurak – a panel of stuffed pieces of cloth, different leather goods, woodcarving, artistic processing of metal, hand weaving of wool and silk.

Itinerary

- **Day 1** Arrive in Bishkek. Accommodation in a hotel. City tour after lunch. You will visit the history museum on Ala-Too square, Followed by an excursion to a potters' shop, where craftsmen make different clay objects, ranging from small things to big jugs.
- Day 2 In the morning you will have an excursion to an eastern market Osh bazaar. You will visit a felt carpet shop, where craftswomen will show you the process of making felt goods, step by step. You will see also the process of felt washing; coloring with natural paints (walnut, onion, barbaric, etc.); painting pictures and the secrets of Kyrgyz embroidery. After lunch you will visit a shop that sells traditional Kyrgyz saddles and other patterned leather things. Stay overnight stay in a hotel.
- **Day 3** Transfer to Jety-Oguz Gorge (400 km) along the Southern shore of Issyk-Kul Lake. Local people tell a lot of legends about this gorge. In Bokonbaevo, on the way to Jety-Oguz, you will visit a shop where yurts the traditional Kyrgyz nomadic dwelling are sold. You can take part in setting up a yurt. Stay overnight in the "Flower valley" a yurt camp.
- **Day 4** Free day in the yurt camp. You can walk to the waterfall, ride a horse, or see the process of making felt pictures. Stay Overnight in the yurts.
- **Day 5** Transfer to Karakol (40 km). City tour. After lunch you will meet young artists, who make cheegrass and silk pictures in the Kyrgyz style. Dine with a Uygur family. During the dinner you will listen to the life history of this family. Stay in family run accommodation.
- **Day 6** Travel to Cholpon-Ata (150 km). On the way you will visit the open air museum of petroglyphs. Accommodation in a hotel on the shore of Issyk-Kul Lake.
- **Day 7** Travel to Bishkek (250 km). You will visit a shop in Tamchy, where you will have an opportunity to take part in making ala-kyiiz. It is one of many kinds of Kyrgyz felt carpets. go on an excursion to the Burana Tower. Stay in accommodation in a hotel.
- Day 8 Flight home.

Level of difficulty: This tour is suitable for both children and adults.

<u>Conditions:</u> If you have some specific sicknesses you need to bring own first aid kit with necessary

medicaments.

Tour combination: This tour can be combined with the other tours in Kyrgyzstan offered by NoviNomad.



Map of tour

