

Cotton Country: Challenges and Joyful

Cultural Tour

Duration: 9 Days

Season: All year

Itinerary

- Day 1** Arrival in Bishkek early in the morning. Transfer to a hotel. Rest. Lunch. City tour around Bishkek. Dinner. Overnight stay in the hotel.
- Day 2** Breakfast. **General presentation of head-office of Helvetas-Kyrgyzstan (1 hour)**. Visiting Oh bazaar. Lunch. Meeting with **Rosetta Aitmatova** – a sister of the famous Kyrgyz writer Chingiz Aitmatov. She will explain about hard life of her family in Stalin's period. Visit a memorial of repression's Kyrgyz people in Ata-Beit.
- Day 3** Morning Transfer to airport. Morning flight to Osh by Allyn-Air. Visiting Suleyman mount, historical museum, the house of Babur - son of Great Timur. Lunch in Osh. Transfer to Jalal-Abad (130 km). Introduction of Bio Cotton project at the office of Helvetas in Jalal-Abad. Dinner in Jalalabad (at Helvetas-office or at CBT-Guesthouse). Family run accommodation (CBT-guesthouses).
- Day 4** Transfer to villages where BIO-cotton project has farmers. It is about 30-40 km from Jala-Abad. Meeting with farmers. Lunch. Dividing the group of tour participants between farmer families (3 pax in each family). Tourists stay with farmer's families in one or two villages. Dinner in each family. Overnight stay in the houses of selected farmers.
- Day 5-10** Volunteer work of tour participants together with local selected farmers. Field work during the day. During the evening farmes will be interesting to get some information about lifestyle of participants. During the free time participants optionally can have day excursion to walnut's forest or to mountains. Meal will be organized by local farmers during each day. Overnight stay in the houses of selected farmers. Last evening will be farewell dinner for volunteers together with farmers. **They can have follow up of cooperation work** .
- Day 11** Transfer to Chichkan gorge / Suusamy (400km). Road goes along the biggest water reservoir Toktogulskoe to the valley Suusamy. You will have a good view for the Suusamy Valley and meet with shepherds who stay in mountains. Picnic for lunch. Short walking excursion in mountains before dinner (2 hours). Accommodation and dinner in the guesthouse in Chichkan or Suusamy .
- Day 12** Breakfast. Transfer to Chaek village (210 km). **Visiting countryside secondary school** in Chaek. Short meeting with children and presentation of teachers. Lunch together with local teachers. Transfer to Kochkor village (135 km). Family run accommodation organized by CBT-Kochkor. You will test traditional Kyrgyz dinner "Besh-Parmak" during the dinner.
- Day 13** Breakfast. Visit the felt carpet workshop, where you can not only buy souvenirs but, produce them yourself. Transfer to the Sothern shore of Issyk-Kul (210 km). Picnic for lunch on the shore of the lake. You can relax and swim on the beach. Free time before dinner. You can swim and relax on the beach. Accommodation and dinner at the private guesthouse "Kyrgyz Land" .
- Day 14** Breakfast. Free time in the morning. Relax leisure on the beach or 2 hours walking excursion to see the stone with inscription of ancient Buddhist – Tamag-Tash. It is also possible to visit the former health resort of Soviet astronauts, which was officially established after the fist flight of Yuriy Gagarin to the space. Lunch. Transfer to Chon-Kemin or Kegety gorge (160 km). Accommodation and dinner in the mountain guesthouse.
- Day 15** Breakfast. Full day hiking excursion to mountains. You can meet local shepherds during the hiking and learn about life of Kyrgyz nomads. Optionally possible to have horse riding. Picnic for lunch. Accommodation and dinner in the mountain guesthouse.
- Day 16** Transfer to Bishkek (150 km). Visiting on the way one place of the Great Silk Road - the Burana Tower (11th century) the remains of Karakhanid's empire in Central Asia. Lunch. Visiting central musesum. Kyrgyz folklore program during the dinner. Overnight stay in the hotel.
- Day 16** Transfer to the airport early in the morning. Fly home.

Cultural tours in Kyrgyzstan

How to contact us:

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Map of tour



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

Conditions: 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.

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