

## Festivals of Kyrgyz Culture



*Kyrgyz people value and keep their traditions, the festivals are held to unite the nation and show their traditions and customs. During this tour you will see the show of yurt installation for a time, folklore shows, equestrian sports games (kyz kuumai, tyiyn enmei, eer oodarysh), kok-boru, master classes in crafts, national cuisine, performance Kyrgyz traditions, national games. You will be able to take part in the process.*

### Day 1 **BISHKEK – TAMGA (350 km, 5-6 km hours of driving)**

Meeting with a guide and driver in Bishkek. Transfer to Tamga along the southern shore of Issyk-Kul lake, that is considered to be the second largest mountainous lake in the world on the altitude of 1607 meters above the sea level. We call the lake “the pearl” of Kyrgyzstan. On the way we will stop not far from Tokmok town (60 km) and have excursion to **Burana Tower**, a place on the Great Silk Road dated to 11<sup>th</sup> century. Upon arrival to Tamga dinner and overnight in the yurt.

*(Altitudes above sea level during the day: beginning of day – 850 m in Bishkek, at the end of the day - 1670 m in Issyk Kul lake)*

*Accommodation: 4 persons in a yurt with private toilet and shower for each yurt*

*(Meal -/-/D)*

### Day 2 **TAMGA**

**On the 14<sup>th</sup> of August** after breakfast in the yurt we will drive to the Birds of Prey Festival. Here in the Festival we will see the demonstration of hunting with a Golden Eagle; folklore show; exhibition and sale of handicrafts and souvenirs; tasting of Kyrgyz cuisine. One can see the video of this festival following the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJhYHYbtvTY>. After the Festival we will come back to the yurt camp in Tamga. Dinner and overnight at the yurt camp.

**Option out of 14<sup>th</sup> of August:** After breakfast transfer to the canyon “Fairy tale”. On the way we will have eagle hunting show. A hunter will present his Gold eagles. After visiting the canyon. The canyon was named because of its bizarre rocky landscape, which for many years has been transformed by erosion into amazing sculptures and formations. Some formations look like The Great Wall of China and you can also find other formations that look like snakes, dragons, sleeping giants and even whole castles. From the canyon you can see a majestic panorama of Lake Issyk-Kul and snow caped mountains. One-hour walking there. After lunch at the yurt camp we will drive to Barskon gorge, where we will visit the waterfall. In the evening the cook of the yurt camp will show us “**Manty**” show, Manty is a traditional central Asian dish, made of dough, meat and onions, those who wish can cook together the Manty. Dinner and overnight in the yurt.

*(Altitudes above sea level during the day: 1670 m at the yurt camp in Tamga)*

*Accommodation: 4 persons in a yurt with private toilet and shower for each yurt*

*(Meal B/L/D)*

### Day 3 **TAMGA – KOCHKOR (200 km, 3-4 hours of driving)**

After breakfast we will drive to Kochkor. On the way we will stop in Kyzyl-Tuu village. Here the local craftsman products the wooden parts of the yurts. We will see the process and the craftsman will describe us the process.

Upon arrival to Kochkor visiting the workshop of **felt carpet production**.

Dinner and overnight at the guesthouse.

*(Altitudes above sea level during the day: beginning of day – 1670 m at the yurt camp in Tamga, at the end of the day – 1800 m in Kochkor)*

*Accommodation: in the guesthouse with private toilet and shower in each room.*

*(Meal B/-/D)*

### Day 4 **KOCHKOR - SONG-KUL (150 km, 4-5 hours of driving)**

After breakfast transfer to the mountainous lake called Son-Kul, the lake is considered to be one of the highest lakes in the country, it is situated on the altitude of 3016 meters above the sea level

and is a famous summer pasture for the local people, who come here every summer with their cattle and families and stay in the traditional nomadic housing called yurt.

**On the 25<sup>th</sup> of July** after breakfast we will drive to Song-Kul, where we will visit the National Horse Games Festival. We will witness traditional games called Ulak-Tartysh, Kyz-Kuumai, Tyiyn-Enmei, Er-Enish, that will be accompanied by local folklore music and cooking demonstration. Dinner and overnight at the yurt camp on Song-Kul lake.

*(Altitudes above sea level during the day: beginning of day – 1800 m in Kochkor, the highest point – 3400 m at the Kalmak-Ashuu pass, at the end of the day – 3070 m on the yurt camp on Song-Kul lake)*

**Accommodation:** 4 persons in a yurt

(Meal B/L/D)

## **Day 5 SONG-KUL – BISHKEK (320 km, 5-6 hours of driving)**

After breakfast transfer to Bishkek.

Upon arrival to Bishkek is **end of our services.**

*(Altitudes above sea level during the day: beginning of day – 3070 m at the yurt camp on Song-Kul lake, at the end of the day – 850 m in Bishkek)*

(Meal B/-/-)

**Price is 880 USD per person**

**Size of the group: Minimum 2 pax  
Maximum 9 pax**

### **Level of difficulty:**

There are no difficulties on the route, but tourists should have an average level of fitness because sometimes they have long transfers 4-5 hours by mountain roads.

### **Conditions:**

It is necessary to bring warm clothes, trekking boots, rain coat and etc. Weight of personal things is not limited.

### **Service is included:**

1. Transport for transfers and excursions (good condition car with A/C) for Kyrgyzstan
2. Twin room accommodation
3. Four Five people accommodation in a yurt
4. Meal based on half board mostly – 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners
5. Mineral water during the tour (one liter a day per person)
6. English speaking tour guide
7. Entry fees to museums and canyon
8. Visit of yurt production in Kyzyl Tuu
9. Visiting of felt show in Kochkor on day 3
10. Entry fees to Festival
11. Manty Show in Son-Kul

### **Service is not included:**

1. Hotel in Bishkek on days 2 and 6
2. Alcohol and soft drinks
3. International and domestic flight tickets
4. Items of personal nature including extra luggage charges, room service, medical expenses etc
5. Camera and video fee where applicable
6. Trip cancellation, medical and accident insurance
7. guide assistant
8. Any deviation from the program
9. Single room accommodation
10. Folklore program in Bishkek

### **Hotel list:**

Tamga yurt camp – on Issyk-Kul lake (private toilet and shower for each yurt)

Guesthouse - in Kochkor (private toilet and shower in each room)

Son-Kul yurt camp – in Son-Kul

### **Supplements:**

Supplement for folklore show in Bishkek 80 USD per group

Supplement for the horse ride in Song Kul is 15 USD per person

Single supplement is 20 USD (available in Kochkor)

Supplement for accommodation in Bishkek is 35 USD per person per night based on twin/double room accommodation

Supplement for accommodation in Bishkek in single room is 50 USD per person per night

Supplement for the airport transfer is 30 USD for the group 1-3 pax, 40 USD for the group 4 pax and more (meeting in the airport without the guide)

**Prices:**

The prices are in USD, Valid till the end of 2021.

**Payment:**

Given price is valid if the payment is done via bank transfer.

**Conditions of accommodation:**

During this tour you will have accommodation in yurt camps and guesthouse.

- At the yurt camps on Issyk-Kul and Song-Kul lakes – private toilet and shower for each yurt.
- In guesthouse in Kochkor – private shower and toilet

**Health**

If you have some specific sicknesses, you need to bring own first aid kit with necessary medicaments.

**Responsibilities of clients**

Your clients should recognize and accept the risk that circumstances may arise which would cause some activities to be shortened or eliminated altogether without reimbursement or refund. Such circumstance includes weather conditions, earthquakes and other acts of nature, injuries or other medical problems, which they may experience. However, you recognize and accept that none of the eventualities described above will give you a right to a refund or other forms of reimbursement.

Each tourist should have medical insurance that should be organized him/herself in home country.

**NOTES:**

- The price is given on the basis of 3 star's hotel accommodation in Bishkek. We can change it for hotels with higher level upon request for additional payment.
- Please keep in mind that people in the countryside do not stick to time and can be late for 20-30 minutes. So it may not always be on time according to the itinerary, especially when local people cook and serve food or organize horses for riding.
- People in Kyrgyzstan are very friendly and like to take pictures. But please do ask for permission if you take a picture of old people, mosques, churches, funerals etc or in countryside as people may be offended.
- The same tour program can be organised for another date upon request or for individual groups with the same conditions and same price