

A Hidden Diamond of the Talas Range

Trekking

Duration: 15 days

Season: Middle of July - September



The Sary-Chelek National Park is an excellent area for trekking. This park contains what a lot of travellers say is the most beautiful set of lakes in the world - Sary-Chelek. The views in this Park are some of the best in Kyrgyzstan are well worth the effort required to trek through the area. The Besh Aral State Reserve, set up to protect the Chatkal Valley, which contains some Red Book fauna and flora - most notably the natural habitat of the Greig and Kauffman tulips - both unique to Kyrgyzstan - is another area of outstanding natural beauty.

Itinerary

- **Day 1** Arrival in Bishkek. Rest in a hotel. City tour around the centre in the afternoon. Accommodation in the hotel.
- **Day 2** Transfer from Bishkek to Talas (around 280 km). Your way will go over high pass Too-Ashuu Pass (3586 m above sea level). Family run accommodation (1200 m above sea level).
- **Day 3** Trekking along a beautiful river towards the Urmaral Gorge. When you enter the gorge the surroundings change and the gorge is covered with fir trees and becomes more and more narrow. Overnight in tents.
- **Day 4-5** Trekking via the Chiim-Tash Pass (3600 m). The pass is quite steep and stony and has to be crossed on foot. The other side of the Talas Range is famous for its great summer pastures for shepherds. The tent camp overnight in the mountains.
- Day 6 A quite relaxing and interesting hiking along a river towards the Kara-Kuldzga Pass (3160 m). En route it is possible to watch griffins, marmots and other wildlife. At the very top of the pass, there are the graves of 7 ancient traders from the South who froze to death in winter. Overnight in tents.
- **Day 7-8** Quite a tough days of trekking as the ascent of the Kashka-Suu Pass (3600 m) is a bit challenging, but afterwards, walking along the gorge, looking at the fabulous scenery and meeting gold prospectors and local shepherds is nice. The beautiful Kara-Kamysh Mountain Lake is really a wonder among the mountains. Overnight in the tent camp on the shores of Kara-Kamysh Lake.
- **Day 9** Hiking over the Kotormo Pass (2446m) and we enter Sary-Chelek National Reserve. The stunning panorama of the reserve with its 7 lakes is really amazing. The whole day is spent wandering around 5 of the 7 lakes. Trees and wild animals abound and can be seen and watched. Tent camp overnight on the shores of Iri-Kol Lake.
- **Day 10** Walking with splendid views of snowcapped mountains, through Sary-Chelek orchards and forests to Karasuu village. Here you can get to know the local lifestyle and habits and visit handicraft shops with your final short picnic lunch during the day. Family run accommodation.
- **Day 11** Transfer to the Village Arslanbob in the largest walnut forest in the world (around 300 km). Picnic on the way. Family run accommodation.
- **Day 12** Transfer to Osh (270 km). On the way Visit minarets of Karkhanide's empire in Uzgen (X-XII C.). Overnight stay in a guesthouse.
- Day 13 City Tour in Osh in the morning. Excursion to the museum on the Suleiman (it means King Salomon in English) mount and lunch the traditional style place for Osh people Chaikhona. Visiting Osh Bazar the oriental market. Overnight in the guesthouse.
- **Day 14** Transfer to the airport. Flight to Bishkek with Kyrgyz Airlines (in the morning). Free time in Bishkek in the afternoon. Optionally the folklore program during the dinner. Accommodation in the hotel.
- **Day 15** Transfer to the airport. Fly home.



Map of tour



<u>Level of difficulty:</u> This tour is recommended for people with a hiking experience. An average level of fitness is required. Hiking time is approximately 5-7 hours per day.

If you have some specific sicknesses you need to bring own first aid kit with Conditions:

necessary medicaments.

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

NoviNomad.