

## Yurt to yurt tour



The nomadic way of life imposed its own conditions on a person's life. And this means that its housing must be adapted and comfortable for life. Yurt is one of the most important part of Kyrgyz and Kazakh culture, and this is more than just a home. They symbolize the family, the earth and the universe and cover all stages of life from birth to death. The majority of Kyrgyz culture is associated with yurts, from important rituals and ceremonies, to artisanship and traditional craftsmanship.

Living in yurt camps is an affordable and interesting way for travelers to get acquainted with the culture of Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. Learn how to set up a yurt, participate in making felt and attend the work of the wood (structure of the yurt). Memories of the warm hospitality will remain with you for life.

### Day 1 Departure day

Departure from the largest countries of European Union, like Austria, Germany, Switzerland and others. Scheduled flight with Turkish Airlines via Istanbul.

### Day 2 Bishkek-Tamga

Arrival in Bishkek early in the morning. Local driver will meet you at the airport. Breakfast in Bishkek and transfer to the southern shore of Lake Issyk-Kul, the second largest mountain lake in the world at an altitude of 1607 meters above sea level. The lake does not freeze in winter (hence the name), even though it is surrounded by mountains.

On the way visit the old town of Balasagun. The city was founded by Karachanid Khaganat. And Islam was spread in Kyrgyzstan by the Karachanid Khaganat. Visit Burana Tower. Its construction dated from the 10th to the 11th century. The original height of the tower was not less than 40 m, but the upper part was destroyed by an earthquake. Today, the height is 21.7 meters.

Continue the trip to Issyk-Kul Lake. Optionally, you can **stop in Kyzyl-Tuu**, where the local masters make the wooden parts of the yurts. The local artisan can show you how to make wooden parts of Yurt by your own hands. Lunch is on the way. In the afternoon you will reach Tamga, where you will spend the next few days. Dinner and overnight in the yurt camp.

- Meals: B / L / D
- Altitude during the day: 800 m in Bishkek, 1606 in Tamga

### Days 3-6 Tamga

You have four days to enjoy Issyk-Kul Lake. Your yurt camp is only 150 m away from the lake. You will stay here like nomads in the yurts, but only with a few more comfort. There is a shower and toilet next to each yurt. The food is served in a separate yurt. Before dinner you can enjoy unforgettable sunsets and in the beautiful starry sky. The village of Tamga is located on the main route of Silk Road. As it is known, not only goods were transported on this famous silk road, but also religions. Stones with Buddhist inscriptions were found in one of the Tamga gorges, that is why the village was given the name "Tamga", which means "letter". You can optionally do several activities and visits during these days:

#### Activities to do for extra charge:

1. Visit Jety-Oguz Gorge. Jety - Oguz- (translated from Kyrgyz as "seven bulls") got its name from a chain of weathered red rocks that resemble bulls lying on the ground and are a hallmark of the gorge
2. Visit Barskoon gorge and Borskoon waterfalls. You can take light hikes inside the gorge or go to the waterfall, the driver will accompany you.
3. There is also a unique opportunity for you to practice Kayaking on Issyk-Kul Lake.
4. Another of the unique opportunities that you may have is the visit to Tamga Gorge, where you will find old Buddhist inscriptions on the stones.

Dinners and overnights in the yurt camp.

- Meals: B / L / D
- Altitude during the day: 1606 in Tamga

### Day 7 Tamga- Kochkor (170 km, 2.5-3 hours of driving)

Breakfast in the yurt camp. Today you will drive to Kochkor village. Kochkor is a village surrounded by mountains and large hills. Also you will visit «Fairy Tale" canyon. While walking on sandy hills, your imagination will turn upside down due to the variety of colors and shapes created by the sand. You will see different elements. Optionally, visit the women's cooperation called "Altyn Kol" (Golden Hand). You can take part in the felt production master class and buy beautiful felt art handycarfts from local artists.

Dinner and overnight at the guesthouse in Kochkor.

- Meals: B / L / D
- Altitude during the day: 1606 in Tamga, 1800 m in Kochkor

### Day 8 Kochkor- Son- Kul (150 km, 3-4 hours of driving)

Breakfast in the guesthouse. Then you will drive to the Song-Kul lake. It is a mountain lake at an altitude of 3016 meters above sea level. The nomads spend their summer on the jailoo (pasture) to graze their cattle. You can meet herds of sheep and horses. Lunch at the yurt camp. Accommodation in yurts (yurt is the traditional home of nomadic shepherds). You can taste kymyz (mare's milk) and see how the shepherd's wife prepares bread and cheese. Dinner with freshly baked bread and overnight in a yurt camp.

- Meals: B / L / D
- Altitude during the day: 1800 m in Kochkor, 3030 m on Song-Kol Lake

### Day 9 Song-Kul

Breakfast. The whole day in Song-Kul. Here you can go on a day hike in the mountains, meet local shepherds, observe the shepherd's way of life: taste bread and Kymyz (the Kyrgyz national drink made from mare's milk). You can see how mare is milked, how the nomads live. There are various options for hiking in Song-Kul. There are no special hiking routes here. You can go for a walk yourself and spend from 1 to 5-6 hours. If you go for a walk all day, we can organize packed lunch for you. If you would like to experince horse riding during the day, we can organize this service for you. It will be possible for additional payment. For riding we will arrange a local stableman for your escort.

Overnight and dinner in the yurt camp.

- Meals: B / L / D
- Altitude during the day: 3030 m on Song-Kul

### Day 10 Song-Kul – Bishkek (420 km, about 6 hours of driving)

After early breakfast transfer to Bishkek.

Today you have the opportunity to know the city of Bishkek with guide. Visit Ala-Too square, Oak park and Osh market. This market is an authentic bazaar in Central Asia, which is popular among locals, because of its abundant offer for all visitors' concerns. The bazaar always plays an important role in the lives of people and the city.

Farewell dinner at local restaurant. Overnight at the hotel.

- Meals: B / L / D
- Altitude during the day: 3030 m at Song-Kul Lake, 800 m in Bishkek

### Day 11 Bishkek - AIRPORT

After breakfast in the hotel, transfer to the airport. Catch flight back.

- Meals: B / - / -

Service includes:	Service is not included:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Transport for transfers and excursions during the tour (car in good condition with air conditioning);</li><li>2 people – jeep</li><li>3-4 pax - Mini Van or Delica</li><li>5-12 pax - Mercedes Sprinter</li><li>2. twin / double room accommodation;</li><li>3. Four-person accommodation in the yurts</li><li>4. Full board</li><li>5. Entree fees to cultural places and nature parks according tot he program</li><li>6. Mineral water during the tour (1 liter per person)</li><li>7. Tour guide.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Early check-in on day 1</li><li>2. Alcohol and soft drinks</li><li>3. Costs for Kyrgyz visa if necessary;</li><li>4. Porter service in hotels and at the airport</li><li>5. International and domestic flight tickets</li><li>6. Personal expenses of customers</li><li>7. Any devisions from the program</li><li>8. Escorting Tour Guide service</li><li>9. Yurt production show</li><li>10. Felt carpet production show</li><li>11. Visit Jeti-Oguz gorge</li><li>12. Visit Tamga Gorge</li><li>13. Visit Barskoon gorge</li><li>14. Kayaking in Issyk Kul</li><li>15. Eagle Hunting Show</li></ol>

<b>Price is per Person in USD</b>	1132 USD
Single supplement (available in Bishkek only)	45 USD per person per night

**Minimum size of the group is 4 pax. Maximum is 9 pax**

**Supplement services:**

- Supplement for single room accommodation in Hotel in Bishkek is 45 USD per single room, 60 USD per twin room per night;
- Supplement for yurt production show in Kyzyl-Tuu is 65 USD per group;
- Supplement for Kayaking in Issyk - Kul - is 25 USD per person per day;
- Supplement for Eagle hunting show in Skazka Canyon or Barskoon Canyon – is 90 USD per group;
- Supplement for horse riding in Son-Kul - is 15 USD per person (2-3 hours of riding) (for the service of escorting stableman is - 25 USD per group of 3-4 people);
- Supplement for English speaking guide service - is 75 USD per day including accommodation and food;
- Supplement for Felt carpet Show – is 55 USD per group;
- Supplement for the trip to Barskoon Gorge - group of 2-3 people (small car) with driver – 60 USD per group;
- Supplement for the trip to the Barskoon Gorge - group of 4-12 people (Mercedes Sprinter of 17 seats) with driver – 90 USD per group;
- Supplement for the trip to the Jeti-Oguz gorge - group of 2-3 people (small car) with driver - 50 USD per group;
- Supplement for the trip to the Jeti-Oguz gorge - group of 4-12 people (Mercedes Sprinter of 17 seats) with driver - 80 USD per group;
- Surcharge for the trip to the Tamga Gorge - group of 2-3 people (small car) with driver - 40 USD per group;
- Surcharge for the trip to the Tamga Gorge - group of 4-12 people (Mercedes Sprinter of 17 seats) with driver - 70 USD per group;

**Accommodation list:**

Place	Hotel / Guesthouse / Yurt Camp	Conditions:
<b>Tamga</b>	Yurt Camp	4 people accommodation in a yurt, shared outside European style private toilet and shower cabins near each yurt
<b>Kochkor</b>	Nomad lodge guesthouse or similar	Twin room accommodation, private facilities in each room
<b>Song-Kul</b>	Yurt Camp	4 people accommodation in a yurt, shared outside European style private toilet and shower cabins
<b>Bishkek</b>	Hotel „Bridges“ / „B-Hotel“ or similar	Twin room accommodation, private facilities in each room

**Important Information!**

International and domestic tickets are not included in the price of the tour. But it is possible to organize flight tickets with TURKISCH AIRLINES via Istanbul (from 650 EURO) or with AEROFLOT via Moscow (from 650 EURO). Airline ticket prices are seasonal and changeable.