On horseback along Kyrgyz trails

This is an extraordinary program for horse lovers. You’ll spend 10 days on horseback in the region of Issyk Kul, and then discover the picturesque region of Naryn. It’s the best way to discover Kyrgyzstan!

This program is conceived for riders who are confident at all paces, but it is also open to experienced beginners in a good physical shape.

Day 1. Welcome and enjoy a barbecue in Chunkurchak

- Your guide will pick you up at 11H00 at the hotel lobby, to start exploring Kyrgyzstan’s beautiful nature. After a small one-hour hike in the valley of Chunkurchak, we settle for a delicious barbecue. You can enjoy your afternoon, relax in this calm environment, or continue your hike up to a waterfall.

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<tr>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Barbecue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
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Day 2. A Kyrgyz Fairy Tale

Bishkek - Burana’s minaret

- We leave early in the morning to Kyzyl Suu, the starting point of our equestrian adventure. On the way, we stop to visit the Burana Tower, a mosque that was destroyed in the 13th century during invasions. We’ll be able to climb up on the roof of this Unesco world heritage site, from which you’ll have a splendid view on the mountains. We’ll also visit a small museum, which shows the history of this sight and archeological treasures found nearby.

Burana’s minaret - Kyzyl-Suu

- Then, we’ll drive by the Issyk-Kul Lake, the second biggest alpine lake in the world, located at 1609m altitude. This lake, which looks like a landlocked sea, is often nicknamed Kyrgyzstan’s jewel. It is surrounded by high snowy summits, towering above 5000m altitude, that reflect in the lake’s deep blue water. A couple of dozen of rivers flow from the mountains to the lake, and form many stunning valleys.

- On the way, we’ll also visit the amazing Skazka canyons, whose name translates as Fairy Tale Canyons. This multicolor rock formations rise high above the Issyk Kul Lake. They were formed from years of erosion. The diversity of the forms and colors will make you think that you are, in fact, in a fairy tale.

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<tr>
<th>Breakfast</th>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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Day 3. Let's start our adventure!

Kyrgyz-Suu - Chon Kyrgyz-Suu
- We are transferred to our starting point, and meet the team that will accompany us on this horseback riding adventure. We prepare our horses and equipment for this 9 day trek.

Finally, we start our horse trek through the stunning Chon Kyrgyz Suu Valley, at the foot of the Terskey mountain range. We ride in a green valley, on a path decorated by many pine trees.

Also
3. We're leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

Day 4. Into gorges

Chon Kyrgyz-Suu - Gorge Kitchi Kyrgyz Suu
- This morning, we discover the Karatakia Gorge, with its pine forest. We slowly gain in altitude until we reach a pass. We'll have lunch with this splendid panoramic view, and then go back down into the Kitchi Kyrgyz Suu Valley.

Also
4. We're leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

Day 5. A rainbow of colors

Gorge Kitchi Kyrgyz Suu - Gorge Jukutchak
- After breakfast, we leave for the Kashka-Tor pass (3,937m). The slope is not particularly difficult, but we climb up slowly. At the summit, enjoy the view on the valley below. After, we'll continue riding in the Jeti Orguz Valley. With its beautiful vegetation and red rocks, this is considered one of the most beautiful gorges in the country. The 37 km long valley also has many beautiful legends on its creation, that add to the mystic of this site. We'll have lunch by a waterfall.
Day 6. The Ashu-Kashka Suu Gorge

Gorge Jukutchak - Gorge Ashu-Kashka Suu
- We start our day by climbing to the Archa Tor Pass, at 3636m altitude. On our way, we’ll be able to see a beautiful waterfall, which contrasts with the surrounding rocks. We’ll take our lunch there. In the afternoon, we’ll explore the Asha Kashka Suu Valley.

Also
5
We’re leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

| Breakfast | Prepared by your team |
| Lunch     | Prepared by your team |
| Dinner    | Prepared by your team |
| Accommodation | Tent camping |

Day 7. A celestial lake

Gorge Ashu-Kashka Suu - Kashka-Suu Lake
- Today, we’ll discover the Kashka-Suu alpine lake. We leave our camp early in the morning to cross a pass at 3891m altitude. We leave the green valleys for a rocky landscape, with the stunning Tian Shan Mountains in the background. We’ll reach the lake in the middle of the day, at an altitude of 3800m. This is where we’ll set our camp for the night.

Also
6
We’re leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

| Breakfast | Prepared by your team |
| Lunch     | Prepared by your team |
| Dinner    | Prepared by your team |
| Accommodation | Tent camping |
Day 8. A golden day

Kashka-Suu Lake - River Kumtor

- We continue our horseback riding adventure to a high altitude plateau nestled in the Ak Shyrak mountain range, which translates as “white sheep”. We travel on a path devoid of vegetation, and enjoy the view on the snow-capped summits. We go towards the Kumtor River, a stream rich in gold.

Also

8

We're leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

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Day 9. A valley of high alpine lakes

River Kumtor - Arabel Suu

- This new day brings us to the Arabel Syrty Valley. The valley is crossed by a river of the same name, devoid of vegetation. We arrive at a view point where we can enjoy a breath-taking panorama on the valley of eight lakes, our destination for tomorrow.

Also

9

We're leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

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Day 10. The Chokoly Lake

Arabel Suu - Chokoly Lake

- We take our horses in direction to the Chokoly Lake. We move towards a glacier.

Also

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Day 11. Our last little lake

Chokoly Lake - Lake Ashil

- Not far from our last stop is a small altitude lake called Ashil Lake. This is our goal for the day.

Also

- We're leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

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Day 12. On the way back

Lake Ashil - Barskoön

- For our last day on our horses, we go back to the Jukku Valley, where we'll be able to meet local shepherds. We stop at a family to try local products.

Also

- We're leaving for a 9 day horse trek. Your equipment and belongings will be carried by horses.

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Day 13. Discovering Kyrgyz traditions

- After our breath-taking horse trek, we'll enjoy this day to rest and discover Kyrgyz culture. In the morning, you'll attend a demonstration of eagle hunting. The Kyrgyz hunter, on his horse, will command his eagle to fetch a small prey, like a rabbit.
- Then, we'll arrive in the village of Kyzyl-Tuu, famous for its craftsmen who make traditional handmade yurts. One family will show you how to build a yurt, and you can help put it together.

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<td>Dinner</td>
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Day 14-15. Horseback riding to Son Kul Lake

Kyzyl-Tuu - Kyzart
- After breakfast with our hosts, we take the road to Kyzart. We drive in the steppes of Kyrgyzstan before reaching this village, our starting point for our trek.

Kyzart - Son Kul lake
- From Kyzart (2664 m), we’ll go horseback riding for 4 to 5 hours in direction of Son-Kul Lake. We ride across typical Central Asian landscape, where you’ll see nomadic shepherds and their herds of sheep, horses, and goats. We’ll go through the Tuz-Ashou pass (3227m), before going back down to the lake shore (3016m).
- We arrive by Son Kul Lake, one of Kyrgyzstan’s must-see destinations. This huge alpine lake is the first source of water in the country. Nestled in the celestial mountains at the impressive height of 3016m, this lake is the typical “postcard” landscape of Kyrgyzstan. Its water changes color with the weather, which can change several times every day.

Day 15
- You can enjoy the day to explore the lake, and discover nomadic lifestyle with the family that is welcoming us. Watch them make Kumys, the mare milk, and gather their herds.

Also

Day 16. Discovering a Silk Road Caravanserai

Son-Kul lake - Tash Rabat
- We travel in time at the Tash Rabat caravanserai. Located on the road towards Khasgar, the Tash Rabat caravanserai is one of the best preserved monuments of the Silk Road. Dating back from the 15th century, it had many rooms to welcome the traveling merchants.

Day 17. Visiting the Chatyr Kol Lake
Tash Rabat - Chatyr Kol

- This new day of adventure will bring us to the **Chatyr-Kul Lake**, which translate as “celestial lake” from Kyrgyz. It is located between the At Bashy and Torugart Too crests, at an altitude of 3530m. Third biggest lake in the country, the Chatyr Kol Lake impresses with its crystal clear water.

- Not far from it are hot mineral sources and a mausoleum.

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Day 19. Kochkor's handicraft

**Chatyr Kol - Tash Rabat**

- We take the road back to Tash Rabat. The way back is easier. We enjoy these few hours on our horses to go sight-seeing and watch this picturesque landscape.

**Tash Rabat - Naryn**

- We drive back to Naryn, where you’ll settle in your hotel. Your guide will accompany you for a short walk in the city.

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Day 20. Discover Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan's capital

**Naryn - Kotchkor**

- We take the main road to Bishkek, where we’ll arrive tomorrow. On the way, we’ll stop in the village of **Kochkor**, known for its local development initiatives. We’ll visit a felt fabric held by an association of local women, who make felt rugs (shyrdaks) and other handicraft.

- In the evening, we’ll attend a concert of traditional Kyrgyz music. Not only will you be able to enjoy Kyrgyz songs and instruments, you’ll also get a demonstration of the Kyrgyz epic recital by a manaschi.
Kotchkor - Bishkek

- This is our last day before getting back to the capital. We leave the mountains of Kyrgyzstan, where we met a generous culture, and go back to Bishkek. Drop-off at your hotel, where you’ll be able to relax.

- We visit the Osh Bazar, one of the most fascinating markets in Kyrgyzstan. Enjoy the colors and the smells coming from stands of dry fruits and spices. You can also buy a few traditional souvenirs to bring home.

- Walk on the Ala Too Square in the center of Bishkek. Meeting place for Bishkek’s youth, it comes alive every evening with families and friends who come here to relax. It’s also an important historical place, since it hosted several revolutions.

- Finally, we’ll finish our trip with a visit of the National historical museum.

| Breakfast | Kam-El |
| Lunch     | Local restaurant |
| Accommodation | Hotel 3 star |

Day 21. Have a nice trip!

Bishkek - Manas airport

- Breakfast at your hotel. We drive you back to the airport at the time of your flight.

| Breakfast | Hotel 3 star |

Day 22.

Day 23.
Itinerary map

It’s also possible to privatize this tour for your family or friends. The price will then depend on the number of participants.

Of course, if you choose this option, you’ll be able to customize this trip. We are happy to build a custom trip that answers to your demands.

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<tr>
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### Included

- Airport transfers
- 1 night in a 2* hotel in Bishkek, breakfast included
- 1 night in a local hotel in Naryn
- 2 nights in guest houses
- 6 nights in family stays, including 3 under a yurt
- 1 night in a yurt camp
- 9 nights camping (tent)
- All meals during the trip
- Mineral bottled water
- Car, driver and fuel
- English-speaking Guide
- Cook for groups of more than 4 participants, from days 2 to 12
- Local horse guides
- Horsemanship
- Horse rental + 1 extra horse for every 3 or 4 participant, in case of injury
- Horses to carry equipment
- Horseback riding equipment
- Entry fees for museums and parks
- Traditional folklore show
- IRIDIUM satellite phone
- Cooking equipment (tent, table and chairs)
- Sleeping equipment (tent, sleeping bag, mattresses)
- Portable shower

### Not included

- International transportation
- Visa and passport fees
- Medical insurance
- Travel insurance
- Extra drinks / alcohol
- Meals in Bishkek
- Phone calls
- Any activity not included in the program
- Extra fee for a single room