

Kyrgyzstan Explorer Westbound

16 Days | Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to Tashkent, Uzbekistan



Starting in Kyrgyzstan's bustling capital of Bishkek, this 16 day overland group tour also takes in the highlights of the country before ending in Uzbekistan. Discover the picturesque scenery of the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley, camp in a traditional yurt on the shore of Song Kol Lake and watch an eagle hunter demonstration in the Jeti Oguz Valley. Crossing into Uzbekistan you'll pass over the mountainous Kamchik Pass and end in Tashkent, the modern capital of Uzbekistan.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Jeti Oguz - watch a demonstration from a local eagle hunter and hike amongst the red sandstone cliffs of this beautiful region
- Bishkek - browse the Osh Bazaar or explore the central Ala-Too Square as you enjoy free time in Kyrgyzstan's charming capital
- Song Kol Lake - camp in traditional felt yurts beside the shimmering lake and meet local nomadic farmers

- Kyrgyz Fergana Valley - overland for two or three days in the breathtaking valley, stopping for numerous hikes in the region
- Chong Kemin Valley - gaze at the ancient petroglyphs at Cholpon Ata and opt for a thrilling white water rafting excursion
- Kochkor - meet local Kyrgyz families as you stay in family run guesthouses and visit a local women's felt making cooperative
- Fergana - cross the rugged scenery of the Kamchik Pass and stop at Kokand en route to the vibrant Uzbek city of Fergana
- Tashkent - end your adventure in the modern and clean Soviet-style capital of Uzbekistan

What's Included

- 15 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 10 dinners
- 6 nights in hotels and guesthouses
- 7 nights camping without facilities
- 2 nights in a Yurt Camp
- All necessary camping equipment (excluding sleeping bags)
- Transportation in an overland expedition vehicle
- Services of two crew (drivers/tour leaders) and local guides along the way
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Demonstration from a local eagle hunter in Jeti Oguz
- Visit to the petroglyphs at Cholpon Ata

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Items of a personal nature, additional meals and drinks
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Sleeping bag and roll mat - please bring your own for camping

Local Payment

\$430pp, paid in USD

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Welcome to Bishkek



Welcome to Kyrgyzstan! On arrival there's a pre-departure Welcome Meeting and the rest of today is free to explore Bishkek, the hospitable and fascinating capital of Kyrgyzstan. Perhaps wander down to the vibrant Osh bazaar or head to the central Ala-Too Square.

Kyrgyzstan Explorer Westbound - 16 Days

www.onthegotours.com
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

updated on 29-05-2020 01:34:24

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

Kyrgyzstan Explorer Westbound

Please note: The following itinerary is subject to change due to the unpredictable conditions in Kyrgyzstan. We have tried and tested alternatives in place to ensure your trip runs smoothly, please see the trip notes for details. **Overnight - Bishkek**

Days 2-3 : Chong Kemin Valley



Bishkek - Chong Kemin. We climb aboard our overland truck for the first time today and head out of Bishkek. We may need to return to Bishkek to organise Uzbekistan visas for some of the group so the next couple of days need to be fairly flexible.

We will most likely spend the next two nights camping in the Ala Archa National Park and Chong Kemin Valley. There will be plenty of time for hiking in the stunning scenery and an optional white water rafting excursion will be offered.

Overnight - Chong Kemin (B:2, L:2, D:2)

Day 4 : Russian-style Karakol



Chong Kemin - Karakol. We drive to the northern shore of Lake Issyk Kol this morning, where we can admire the ancient petroglyphs at Cholpon Ata. After our visit here, we continue to the Russian-style town of Karakol, where the afternoon is free to explore. Perhaps pay a visit to the beautiful Russian

Orthodox Holy Trinity Cathedral. **Overnight - Karakol (B)**

Days 5-6 : Jeti Oguz Valley



Karakol - Jeti Oguz. On day 5 we have a scenic drive up into the mountains of the Jeti Oguz region, dominated by towering red sandstone cliffs. The next day is free to explore this picturesque corner of Kyrgyzstan. Hike in the hills and mountains or opt for a horse-riding excursion with some local nomads. We'll camp in the area for these two nights.

Overnight - Jeti Oguz (B:2, L:2, D:2)

Day 7 : Kochkor



Jeti Oguz - Kochkor. Today we drive to the small village of Kochkor, stopping en route to watch a demonstration from a local eagle hunter, whose well-trained birds are used to catch wild animals for their skins and meat.

On arrival in Kochkor, we check in to our small, family-run guesthouses - this is a great experience and you'll get to know the local people. We also visit the village museum and a women's felt making cooperative which produces shyrdaks - the felt carpets that Kyrgyzstan is known for. There's also an optional outdoor folk concert and you can learn how to erect a yurt. **Overnight - Kochkor (B, D)**

Days 8-9 : Song Kol Lake



Kochkor - Song Kol Lake. On day 8 we drive to shimmering Song Kol Lake, where we base ourselves for the next two nights. Song Kol is a remote and peaceful lake set in stunning scenery - Kyrgyzstan in all of its glory. We'll stay in traditional felt yurts and experience the life of rural Kyrgyz people. There's optional hiking and horse-riding in the area.

Please note: In the low season we will be unable to stay at Song Kol Lake due to the adverse weather. Instead we will likely stay in yurts on the southern shore of Lake Issyk Kol. **Overnight - Song Kol Lake (B:2, D:2)**

Days 10-12 : Kyrgyz Fergana Valley



Song Kol Lake - Kyrgyz Fergana Valley. We spend the next three days overlanding through the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley towards Arslanbob. We'll make frequent stops to hike in the stunning mountain region and will camp in suitable spots on the route.

Please note: If the group prefers, we will spend an extra day in Arslanbob and depart for two days of overlanding in the valley on day 10. In cold weather we will be unable to camp and will stay in guesthouses along

Kyrgyzstan Explorer Westbound - 16 Days

www.onthegotours.com
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

Kyrgyzstan Explorer Westbound

the route. **Overnight - Kyrgyz Fergana Valley**
(B:3, L:3, D:3)

Day 13 : Arslanbob

Kyrgyz Fergana Valley - Arslanbob. Today we finally arrive in the picturesque village of Arslanbob. There's free time to relax after a long few days of overlanding. Perhaps take a stroll in the famous walnut forest, the largest walnut grove in the world. **Overnight - Arslanbob** (B)

Day 14 : Fergana

Arslanbob - Fergana (Uzbekistan). We say goodbye to the mountainous country of Kyrgyzstan today, crossing the border into neighbouring Uzbekistan. Our drive today takes us to the city of Fergana, where the evening is at leisure. **Overnight - Fergana** (B)

Day 15 : Kokand, Kamchik Pass & Tashkent



Fergana - Kokand - Tashkent. Today we journey to Kokand, where we'll visit the Khudayar Khan's Palace and the Margilan Silk Factory. Traditional methods are still used here in the production of this famous textile.

After exploring Kokand, we cross over the mountainous Kamchik Pass to Tashkent, the Soviet-style capital of Uzbekistan. We must pass over the Kamchik Pass in local transport, as our truck must cross without passengers. We'll be reunited later today in Tashkent. Your final evening in Central Asia can be spent exploring Tashkent as you please. **Overnight - Tashkent** (B)

Day 16 : Tashkent



Our adventure ends today. If you wish, speak to our Sales Team about booking extra accommodation in Tashkent in order to fully explore the city.(B)

PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 4 persons. Prices shown are per person travelling. These overland trips are designed for shared accommodation, whether camping or staying in hotels or hostels, and therefore do not involve a single supplement. Whilst the crew will do their best to accommodate couples travelling together in twin rooms, all our travellers should expect multi-share accommodation when staying in hostels, homestays or yurts, which may be mixed sex.

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
29 Jun	ZAR 22,900	ZAR 22,900
24 Aug	ZAR 22,900	ZAR 22,900
14 Sep	ZAR 22,900	ZAR 22,900

PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
28 Jun	ZAR 23,900	ZAR 23,900
23 Aug	ZAR 23,900	ZAR 23,900
13 Sep	ZAR 23,900	ZAR 23,900

Kyrgyzstan Explorer Westbound - 16 Days

www.onthegotours.com
UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

updated on 29-05-2020 01:34:24

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.