# **TOUR DOSSIER** FEEL AT EASE AMONGST THE VAST SPACES OF RUSSIA.



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# Bishkek to Almaty: a Journey through Kyrgyzstan & Kazakhstan

GO WITH THE EXPERTS.





Embark on an 8-day journey through the heart of Central Asia, discovering the wonders of Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. Begin your adventure in Bishkek, where vibrant cities and ancient landmarks set the stage for your exploration. Travel through the stunning Chon Kemin Valley, the serene Issyk-Kul Lake, and awe-inspiring canyons, all while immersing yourself in the rich nomadic culture. Experience the thrill of eagle hunting and witness the natural beauty of Fairy Tale Canyon, Djety Oguz, and Kolsai Lakes. Cross into Kazakhstan to marvel at the grandeur of Charyn Canyon, and explore Almaty, a dynamic city where tradition meets modernity. This well-paced journey offers a perfect blend of adventure, relaxation, and cultural discovery for an unforgettable experience.

#### **DEPARTURE DATES:**

03.15.2025; 03.22.2025; 03.29.2025; 04.05.2025; 04.12.2025; 04.19.2025; 04.26.2025; 05.03.2025; 05.10.2025; 05.17.2025; 05.24.2025; 05.31.2025; 06.07.2025; 06.14.2025; 06.21.2025; 06.28.2025; 07.05.2025; 07.12.2025; 07.19.2025; 07.26.2025; 08.02.2025; 08.09.2025; 08.16.2025; 08.23.2025; 08.30.2025; 09.06.2025; 09.13.2025; 09.20.2025; 09.27.2025; 10.04.2025; 10.11.2025.

#### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 - Bishkek

Arrive in Bishkek, the lively capital of Kyrgyzstan, where you'll be greeted and transferred to your hotel. After checking in, enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure-either unwind or take a stroll through the city as you gear up for the exciting experiences that await. Overnight in Bishkek. (Dinner)

# Day 2 - Bishkek / Burana Tower / Chon Kemin National Park

After a relaxing breakfast, start your day with a guided tour of Bishkek, where you'll discover the city's blend of history and Soviet-era architecture. Visit iconic sights such as Ala-Too Square, the Monument of Manas, Oak Park, and Victory Square, which commemorates the heroes of WWII. Then, continue your journey to the picturesque Chon Kemin Valley, making a stop at the historic Burana Tower, an impressive remnant of the ancient Silk Road. Upon arrival in Chon Kemin, check in at a charming guesthouse and enjoy a peaceful evening. Overnight in Chon Kemin. (Breakfast, Dinner)

# TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

# Included

Accommodation Breakfasts - daily Lunches as indicated Dinners - daily English - speaking guides Guided tours & entrance fees Airport transfers

Not included Personal travel insurance Optional excursions

Practical information About Go Russia company Accommodation options

#### Day 3 - Chon Kemin / Bokonbaevo

After a hearty breakfast, enjoy a morning hike through the scenic Chon Kemin Valley, where the majestic mountains and untouched landscapes provide a perfect opportunity to connect with nature. Alternatively, you can explore the local gorges or immerse yourself in the region's culture by trying your hand at horseback riding or learning the art of yurt construction. We'll then continue our journey toward the stunning Issyk-Kul Lake, where you'll be awed by the shimmering waters framed by towering peaks. Along the way, visit the village of Kyzyl Tuu, known for its yurt-making expertise. The day's adventure culminates in Bokonbaevo, where you'll meet a local eagle hunter and witness the fascinating tradition of falconry. Overnight in

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Bokonbaevo, fully immersed in Kyrgyzstan's nomadic heritage. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

## Day 4 - Bokonbaevo / Skazka Canyon / Djety Oguz Canyon / Karakol

Start your day by exploring the stunning shores of Issyk-Kul Lake, then make your way to the captivating Fairy Tale (Skazka) Canyon, where vibrant rock formations create a magical landscape. From there, continue to Djety Oguz Canyon, renowned for its striking red cliffs, including the famous "Broken Heart" rock and the "Seven Bulls" formations. In Karakol, a town steeped in cultural heritage, visit the unique Dungan Mosque, designed like a traditional Chinese pagoda, and the beautifully restored Russian Orthodox Holy Trinity Cathedral. Don't miss the N. M. Przhevalsky Museum, dedicated to the famous Russian explorer. After a day of exploration, relax and spend the night in Karakol, a town that beautifully blends history and culture. (Breakfast, Dinner)

# Day 5 - Karakol / Border Crossing / Kolsai Lakes / Saty

Cross into Kazakhstan and head towards the charming Saty Village, nestled within the scenic Kolsai Lakes National Park. Here, immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the area with a hike to the tranquil Kolsai Lakes, often referred to as the "Blue Necklace" of the Tien Shan Mountains due to their stunning, vibrant beauty. If time permits, we'll visit the mesmerizing Kaindy Lake, renowned for its submerged forest and striking turquoise waters, creating a surreal and captivating landscape. Overnight in Saty Village. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

#### Day 6 - Saty / Charyn Canyon / Almaty

We begin our journey towards Almaty, with a captivating stop at the remarkable Charyn Canyon. As we explore the "Valley of Castles," you'll be awestruck by the stunning rock formations and expansive views that highlight the natural splendor of this extraordinary landscape. After soaking in the beauty of the canyon, we'll continue our drive to Almaty, Kazakhstan's largest and most dynamic city. Upon arrival, check in to your hotel and enjoy some time to relax and unwind after a day full of exploration. Overnight in Almaty. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

#### Day 7 - Almaty

Your day in Almaty starts with a visit to Panfilov Park, where you'll learn about the 28 heroes who gave their lives for the country's freedom. Admire the Zenkov Cathedral, the city's oldest wooden building, and pay your respects at the Memorial Complex, home to the eternal flame. Continue to the bustling Green Bazaar, where you can find unique local souvenirs, and then head to the central Mosque. At Republic Square, take in the Independence Obelisk and other symbols of the nation's heritage. In the afternoon, we'll visit Kok-Tobe Hill for breathtaking views of Almaty, followed by a peaceful walk through Kok-Tobe Park, home to a monument dedicated to "The Beatles." To end the day, enjoy a scenic cable car ride back to the city center before returning to your hotel for a restful evening. Overnight in Almaty. (Breakfast, Dinner)

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# Day 8 - Almaty

On your final day, we'll transfer you to the airport for your departure, marking the end of your unforgettable adventure through Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. (Breakfast)

# AVAILABLE PACKAGES

#### COMFORT - 3\* PACKAGE

Dates	Tour Price	Single suppliment
03/15/2025 - 03/22/2025	\$2195	\$195
03/22/2025 - 03/29/2025	\$2195	\$195
03/29/2025 - 04/05/2025	\$2195	\$195
04/05/2025 - 04/12/2025	\$2195	\$195
04/12/2025 - 04/19/2025	\$2195	\$195
04/19/2025 - 04/26/2025	\$2195	\$195
04/26/2025 - 05/03/2025	\$2195	\$195
05/03/2025 - 05/10/2025	\$2195	\$195
05/10/2025 - 05/17/2025	\$2195	\$195
05/17/2025 - 05/24/2025	\$2195	\$195
05/24/2025 - 05/31/2025	\$2195	\$195
05/31/2025 - 06/07/2025	\$2195	\$195
06/07/2025 - 06/14/2025	\$2195	\$195
06/14/2025 - 06/21/2025	\$2195	\$195
06/21/2025 - 06/28/2025	\$2195	\$195
06/28/2025 - 07/05/2025	\$2195	\$195
07/05/2025 - 07/12/2025	\$2195	\$195
07/12/2025 - 07/19/2025	\$2195	\$195
07/19/2025 - 07/26/2025	\$2195	\$195
07/26/2025 - 08/02/2025	\$2195	\$195
08/02/2025 - 08/09/2025	\$2195	\$195
08/09/2025 - 08/16/2025	\$2195	\$195
08/16/2025 - 08/23/2025	\$2195	\$195
08/23/2025 - 08/30/2025	\$2195	\$195
08/30/2025 - 09/06/2025	\$2195	\$195
09/06/2025 - 09/13/2025	\$2195	\$195
09/13/2025 - 09/20/2025	\$2195	\$195
09/20/2025 - 09/27/2025	\$2195	\$195
09/27/2025 - 10/04/2025	\$2195	\$195
10/04/2025 - 10/11/2025	\$2195	\$195
10/11/2025 - 10/18/2025	\$2195	\$195

#### PREMIUM - 4\* PACKAGE

Dates	Tour Price	Single suppliment
03/15/2025 - 03/22/2025	\$2295	\$255
03/22/2025 - 03/29/2025	\$2295	\$255
03/29/2025 - 04/05/2025	\$2295	\$255
04/05/2025 - 04/12/2025	\$2295	\$255
04/12/2025 - 04/19/2025	\$2295	\$255
04/19/2025 - 04/26/2025	\$2295	\$255
04/26/2025 - 05/03/2025	\$2295	\$255
05/03/2025 - 05/10/2025	\$2295	\$255
05/10/2025 - 05/17/2025	\$2295	\$255
05/17/2025 - 05/24/2025	\$2295	\$255
05/24/2025 - 05/31/2025	\$2295	\$255
05/31/2025 - 06/07/2025	\$2295	\$255
06/07/2025 - 06/14/2025	\$2295	\$255
06/14/2025 - 06/21/2025	\$2295	\$255
06/21/2025 - 06/28/2025	\$2295	\$255
06/28/2025 - 07/05/2025	\$2295	\$255
07/05/2025 - 07/12/2025	\$2295	\$255
07/12/2025 - 07/19/2025	\$2295	\$255
07/19/2025 - 07/26/2025	\$2295	\$255

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#### ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Go Russia" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please <u>contact us for a quote</u>.

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > Best of Kyrgyzstan: Discover Finest Lakes, Steppe Land & Historic Towns 8 days (SR-05), Price from \$1,595, 8 days
- > Great Uzbekistan Discovery: from Fergana to Khiva (SR-06), Price from \$2,095, 13 days
- > Best of Uzbekistan: Tashkent, Chimgan, Samarkand, Shakhrisabz, Bukhara, Khiva (SR-07), Price from \$1,745, 10 days
- > Discover the Silk Road: a Journey across 5 Stans (SR-08), Price from \$5,695, 23 days

#### INFORMATION ABOUT VISAS

Go Russia provides assistance in processing visas and visa fees are included in the cost of most of our trips as detailed in the tour dossier. The visa application process is very straightforward. We have years of practical experience in dealing with tourist visas, and our in-house visa team provides assistance with completing the forms and checking the documents before consular submission. Please do not worry that your application will be unsuccessful (unless you have had any immigration issues with the relevant authorities in the past). All our tourists get their visas.

All nationalities require a full passport valid for at least six months beyond the intended length of stay. Please also make sure there are enough blank pages in your passport: Russian consulate requires minimum two blank pages.

#### USA, UK, Germany, France, Spain residents

We have in-house visa teams in the US, UK, Germany, France and Spain. Upon your booking we will email you detailed guidance notes how to fill in the visa forms and what additional documents depending on nationality and your immigration status will be required. You will need to post your application pack to our visa processing office including your original passport. Please allow about two weeks for each visa application to be processed. Please advise us if you require your passport urgently, we can arrange urgent processing for an additional charge.

#### Non-USA, UK, Germany, France, Spain residents

If you are not resident in the USA, UK, Germany, France or Spain, we will issue official paperwork and email the required documents to you. You will need to apply for your visa at the local consulate. The process is very straightforward and we can assist you with completing the visa forms. You will have to pay the correct visa fee at the consulate in the country of your residence.

You can read more information about visa and application forms on our website: www.justgorussia.com/us/visa\_services.html

#### HOW TO BOOK

# Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Go Russia holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you,

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as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

# Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

**Online:** log on to <u>www.justgorussia.com</u> and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Go Russia, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, brochure requests, lecture participation, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - info@justgorussia.com, or

Phone: call us on +1 (917) 259 13 33

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel / cabin category), and available upgrades.

#### Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

#### Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum \$250) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer or credit card (2% surcharge applies for credit card payments). You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

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On request we can organise an additional programme for you, please <u>inquire</u> about the price and availability of the optional excursions.

Please find below some space to write down your queries or comments regarding this trip.





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