

## **Magic of Asian Triangle**

Cultural tour
Duration: 16 Days



For years the Great Silk Road has united different cultures and traditions. This road has become a bridge between peoples. The families or even the Countries of Central Asia has been related between them. This tour offers you an excellent chance to dive in to the culture of three Brother Countries, get acquainted with the rich history and nature of Kazakhstan, northern China and Kyrgyzstan. During this tour you will visit magnificent historical places related to 11-19th centuries: the remains of Buddhism Bezeklik Buddha Caves, the fabled mosques and the famous Sunday cattle market of Kashgar, see Great Kyrgyz Mountains, relax on the shore of Issyk-Kul lake – the Pearl of Kyrgyzstan and learn about the culture of Central Asian peoples.

## **Itinerary**

- **Day 1** Arrival in Almaty early in the morning. Transfer to the hotel "Otrar". Rest in the hotel. Lunch. City tour around the centre of Almaty in the afternoon. Dinner. Overnight in the hotel
- **Day 2** One day excursion to the Medeo Gorge (35 km). This gorge is suitable for walking excursion. Picnic for lunch. Visit International open air Ice-skate ring "Medeo", which is open during whole year. Dinner at the hotel
- Day 3 Transfer to train station. Take a train to Urumqi.
- **Day 4** Train arrive at Urumqi Railway Station at about 09:30 AM, meet the guide and transfer to hotel for breakfast. Visit Xinjiang Museum, bazaar. Overnight at World Plaza Hotel.
- Day 5 Breakfast. Transfer to Turpan, visit Jiaohe Ruins, Kareze. Overnight at Turpan Hotel.
- **Day 6** Visit Gaochang Ruins, Astana Tombs, Bezeklik Buddha Caves, transfer to Urumqi, connecting flight to Kashgar. Meet the guide and transfer to Qiniwak Hotel. Overnight in the hotel
- Day 7 Excursion to Karakul Lake. Lunch. Overnight in the hotel .
- Day 8 Visit Idkha Mosque, Abahoja Tombs, old part of Kashgar and Sunday bazaar.
- **Day 9** Transfer to Torgart Pass (200km). Meeting at Torugart Pass with Kyrgyz guide around noon of Kyrgyz time. Picnic for lunch. Transfer to Tash-Rabat Caravan Saray (115 km). Excursion to Caravan Saray. Accommodation and dinner in the yurta camp.
- **Day 10** Free day in Tash-Rabat. You can have different activities during the day hiking or horseback riding excursion, visit local shepherds. Accommodation and dinner in the yurta camp
- **Day 11** Breakfast. Transfer to Kochkor village (250 km). Picnic for lunch on the Dolon Pass (3030 m). You will test traditional food "Besh-Parmak" during the dinner in local family. Family run accommodation .
- **Day 12** Visit handicraft workshop, where local woman produce felt carpets and bazaar. Transfer to the Northern shore of Issyk-Kul lake Cholpon-Ata town (130 km). Lunch. Excursion to the Open air museum with stones inscriptions on the way. Accommodation and dinner in the hotel .
- Day 13 Free time in the morning. You can go for swimming or relaxing on the beach. Optionally is possible boat excursion about 1,5 hour. Transfer to Bishkek (275 km). Visit Burana Tower on the way (IX-XI C.). Dinner. Accommodation in the hotel.
- **Day 14** Visit Osh bazaar. Lunch in a local restaurant. City tour around the centre of Bishkek. Farewell dinner. Optionally is Kyrgyz folklore program during the dinner. Overnight stay in the hotel.
- Day 15 Transfer to the airport. Fly home.



Level of difficulty: This tour is suitable for both children and adults.

<u>Conditions:</u> If you have some specific sicknesses you need to bring own first aid kit with necessary medicaments.

<u>Tour combination:</u> This tour can be combined with other tours in Kyrgyzstan offered by NoviNomad.