

Explore Mangystau 6 Days Tour

Duration: 6 days

You will visit: Zhygylgan, Shakpak-ata, Torysh, Kok-kala, Sherkala, Airakty, Karaman-ata, Ybykty, Tuzbair, Kyzylkup, Beket-ata, Bozshyra.

Tour Itinerary:

Day 1: Aktau - Zhygylgan – Shakpak Ata

Start your unforgettable exploration of Mangystau Tour, beginning with a morning pick-up from your hotel in Aktau or at the airport. Depart from Aktau and head to Taushyk town for a delectable lunch. Your next stop will be the mesmerizing Zhygylgan Cape, offering panoramic views of towering cliffs and ancient lion footprints that have been preserved for over 100 million years. Explore colossal earth formations resembling houses and a heart-shaped lake, providing the perfect backdrop for stunning photographs. After delving into the marvels of Zhygylgan Cape, make your way to the tranquil Shakpak-Ata Mosque, where you'll spend the night in an old guesthouse adjacent to the mosque. En route to the mosque, make a pit stop at the observation deck of the largest canyon, Kapamsai Mangistau. In the evening, indulge in a traditional Kazakh tea-time and immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage of Kazakhstan. Step outside to witness the enchanting starry sky, far from the city lights, for an awe-inspiring sight.

Meals: lunch, dinner.

Accommodation: guesthouse.

Day 2: Shakpak Ata - Torysh – Kok-kala - Sherkala - Airakty

After enjoying a delightful breakfast, get ready to explore the captivating Underground Mosque of Shakpak Ata. Make sure to dress appropriately and have your camera handy to capture the impressive architecture of the mosque. Following this, continue your adventure to the extraordinary Valley of Balls - Torysh, where you'll encounter perfectly circular and half-sliced rock formations that resemble dragon eggs. Take the time to appreciate this unique landscape and relish lunch in this scenic location.

Then, take a peaceful walk through the lilac-colored remnant rocks at Jurassic Clays – Kok-kala, known for its fascinating geological features. Afterward, drive to Sherkala Mount, a remarkable formation with its own intriguing story, accompanied by your guide's fascinating insights.

Your journey continues to the enchanting Airakty Valley of Castles, where you'll be captivated by the castle-shaped hills with their distinctive spires, offering picturesque views, particularly during sunset and sunrise. Your campsite for the night will afford you a perfect vantage point overlooking the castles. Enjoy a delicious dinner and marvel at the beauty of the night sky, adorned with sparkling stars.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Accommodation: camping in tent.

Day 3: Airakty - Karaman Ata – Ybykty - Yurt

Begin your day with a tasty breakfast before setting out on an exciting and picturesque climb to the castles. The journey promises thrills, and once you reach the top, you'll be treated to awe-inspiring views of the magnificent castles. As you descend, continue your drive to Karaman Ata Mosque, where a delightful lunch awaits. This mosque holds significant historical and cultural value, enhancing the overall experience.

After lunch, take the opportunity to visit the largest underground mosque in Mangystau. This extraordinary experience is bound to be filled with intrigue and fascination. Next, head to Porous Gorge Ybykty, a natural wonder that is truly indescribable. Similar to the famous Red Canyon in Israel and Antelope Canyon in Arizona, this unique gorge showcases its own distinct porous features that make it an absolute must-see. Following your exploration of the gorge, continue your drive to a Yurt Village, where you will spend the night. This assures you of an indelible cultural journey, plunging you deep into the opulent traditions and way of life of the area.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Accommodation: yurt camp.

Day 4: Yurt - Tuzbair - Kyzylkup

After savoring a delectable breakfast, your exciting journey will kick off as you head towards the breathtaking Salt Flat Tuzbair. By noon, you'll arrive at this enchanting salt flat, where you can enjoy a quick and satisfying lunch. Don't miss the chance to capture unique and captivating photos on the snowy white salt expanse, reminiscent of Bolivia's famous Salar de Uyuni.

Following lunch, your adventure continues to a remarkable white arch that resembles a colossal bone. This picturesque location provides excellent opportunities for more photography and exploration. Along the way, you'll also make a stop at the enchanting white limestone canyons, adding another captivating natural wonder to your trip.

As the day unfolds, you'll embark on a scenic drive towards the remote and stunning Tiramisu Canyon Kyzylkup. The landscapes here are truly one-of-a-kind, offering exceptional views and an unforgettable adventure. You're expected to reach Kyzylkup by late afternoon, where a delicious dinner awaits. You'll get the opportunity to relax and rejuvenate for the upcoming day's adventures while spending the night in this serene setting.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Accommodation: camping in tent.

Day 5: Kyzylkup - Beket Ata - Bozhyra

For those eager to witness the awe-inspiring sunrise, the chance to wake up early and independently experience this natural wonder awaits. After a satisfying breakfast, your team will collaborate to set up the camp, ensuring that everything is in perfect order for the day's activities. Your adventure kicks off with a captivating hike through the mesmerizing Tiramisu Canyon, renowned for its striking striped patterns that resemble the layers of a delicious Tiramisu cake. Continuing your journey, you'll have the opportunity to visit the renowned Beket Ata mausoleum. Should you choose to venture into the underground mosque, be ready for a 1.5 km trek down into the canyon, followed by the same ascent back up.

Continuing the adventure, your next destination will be the remarkable Bozhyra National Park, a veritable paradise of natural marvels featuring awe-inspiring geological formations. As you make your way there, you'll enjoy a quick and satisfying lunch. Upon arrival at the park, your first visit will be to the Bozhyra Mars

Panorama, a location that truly mirrors an alien world, showcasing unique and captivating landscapes. Your journey will then take you to the Bozzhya Dragon Crest Top View, a peak renowned for its distinctive shape resembling the crest of a powerful dragon, often likened to a majestic ship.

To conclude your day's adventure, you'll make your way down to the Bozzhya camping site, tucked within the stunning canyons of the National Park. Here, you'll be greeted by a mesmerizing vista of the park's majestic beige walls. Take your time to explore the area, capturing breathtaking sunset photos as it gracefully bathes the park in a gentle, golden glow. This presents the ideal moment to etch the beauty of the landscape into your memory and your photographs, fully immersing yourself in the serenity and natural splendor of the surroundings.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Accommodation: camping in tent.

Day 6: Bozzhya – Aktau

Following a delightful breakfast, we will commence our journey towards the stunning Bozzhya Fangs Formation. A brief 20-minute stroll will guide us to the viewpoint, allowing us to savor the awe-inspiring vistas that this renowned location within the park has to offer.

As our expedition draws to an end, we will commence our return journey to Aktau, a drive that will span approximately 4-5 hours by car. Our journey will include a rewarding lunch break in Zhanaozen before we continue onward to the vibrant city of Aktau. Upon reaching Aktau, we will conclude our tour by either dropping you off at your hotel or at the airport, marking the conclusion of the Explore Mangystau 6 Days Tour.

Meals: breakfast, lunch.

Accommodation: none.

Good to know:

- *No special equipment or fitness level required for this tour! Just make sure to bring hiking shoes, slippers and weather-appropriate clothing (sun hat, sunglasses, sun cream for hot weather; jacket, windbreaker, or raincoat for cold or rainy weather, long-sleeve shirts and pants to shield against the sun and potential insects) and towel, toothbrush, toothpaste, personal hygiene items. Get ready for an amazing adventure!*
- *In case of unexpected weather conditions such as storms, heavy rain, or strong winds, the travelers may be required to leave the camp and seek shelter in the nearest guesthouses.*

Inclusions:

- Accommodation - camping in tents 3 nights (tent, mat, sleeping bag, bedsheet, and pillow), yurt camp 1 night and guesthouse 1 night;
- Transportation throughout the tour;
- English speaking local guide;
- Entrance and eco-fees;
- Meal as per the program (6 lunches, 5 breakfasts and 5 dinners).

Exclusions:

- International flight tickets before and after the tour;
- Accommodation in Aktau;
- Personal travel insurance;
- Tips are not included (driver, guide, porter);
- All other charges and services not mentioned under “Inclusions”.