

# VIATGES YOONUDIAM



# TURKMENISTAN

# DISCOVER TURKMENISTAN

**ITINERARY:** ARRIVAL-ASHGABAT-GOKDEPE-BAHARDEN-NOHUR-MAGTYMGULY-MADAU-DEHISTAN-GUMDAG-BALKANABAD-MOLLA-KARA-TURKMENBASHI-AVAZA-GOZLIATA-KEMALATA-YANGIKALA-BALKANABAD-SERDAR-BALISHEM-PORT-DAMLA-AKMOLLA-MURZECHIRLA-GONURDEPE-MARY-BAYRAMALY-MERV-TURKMENABAD-KOYTENDAG-TURKMENABAD-ASHGABAT-DASHOGUZ-KONYEURGENCH-DARVAZA-ASHGABAT-DEPARTURE

**ENTRY POINT:** BP “ASHGABAT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT”; **EXIT POINT:** BP “ASHGABAT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT”

**DURATION:** 19 DAYS / 19 NIGHTS  
**TOUR TYPE:** ADVENTURE, CULTURE, ETHNOGRAPHY, ECO-NATURE, DESERT & MOUNTAIN TREKKING  
**TOUR CATHEGORY:** INDIVIDUAL / SMALL GROUPS TOUR  
**HIGH SEASON:** MARCH-OCTOBER

**ACCOMMODATION:**

DESTINATIONS	HOTEL	CLASS	NUMBER OF NIGHTS
ASHGABAT	ARCHABIL (or similar)	↓↓↓↓↓	4+1
MARY	MARY (or similar)	↓↓↓↓↓	1
TURKMANBASHI	HAZYNA (or similar)	↓↓↓↓↓	1
DASHOGUZ	DASHOGUZ (or similar)	↓↓↓↓↓	1
TURKMENABAT	YUPEK YOLY (or similar)	↓↓↓↓	1
SERDAR	CHINAR MOTEL	↓↓	1
VARIOUS	GESTHOUSES	-	6
VARIOUS	CAMP / TENTS	-	2
TURMENABAT-ASHGABAT	NIGHT IN TRAIN	PRIVATE COMPARTMENT	1



**TRANSPORTATION:** PRIVATE AIR CONDITIONED TRANSPORT: 4X4 SUV VEHICLES

ASHGABAT-GOKDEPE-NOHUR	<210 KM	MURZECHIRLA-GONURDEPE-MARY	<510 KM
NOHUR-MAGTYMGULY-MADAU	<310 KM	MARY-MERV-TURKMENABAT	<245 KM
MADAU-BALKANABAT-T_SY-AVAZA	<410 KM	TURKMENABAT-ATAMYRAT-KOYTEN	<440 KM
AVAZA-GOZLIATA-YANGIKALA	<250 KM	KOYTEN-ATAMYRAT-TURKMENABAT	<440 KM
YANGIKALA-BALKANABAT-SERDAR	<450 KM	DASHOGUZ-KONYEURGENCH	<240 KM
SERDAR-BALISHEM-ATAGUY-PORT	<365 KM	DASHOGUZ-YZMUKSHIR-DARVAZA	<310 KM
PORT-DAMLA-AKMOLLA-MURZECHIRLA	<215 KM	DARVAZA-ASHGABAT-CITY TOUR	<360 KM



D	WD	ITINERAY	PROGRAM	
1	YEAR AROUND	ARRIVAL- ASHGABAT	<p>Arrival to <b>Ashgabat</b> at ____ Meeting &amp; transfer to hotel. Accommodation &amp; rest. After lunch break SS in/around Ashgabat: one of the most beautiful cities of the world which was included into the Book of Guinness as the Most-White Marble City in the World. Today's sightseeing includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gulistan Bazar</b> (known as "Russian Bazaar" 1950s since it was built as then many Russian used to go there for shopping. Despite it is very rare to see them there its old public name is common to hear),</li> <li>• <b>Monument of Lenin</b> which was erected in 1927 and was one those few monuments which survived the earthquake of 1948,</li> <li>• <b>"My White City: Ashgabat"</b> which was opened on 24 May 2014,</li> <li>• <b>Ertogrul Gazy Mosque</b> – a present from Turkey to Turkmenistan built in 1998 and named after the father of Othman I-the founder Othman Empire in Turkey who is believed left for Turkey from Turkmenistan with his 400 horsemen during Seljuk Turkmen invasions to the west in XII cc.</li> </ul> <p>Evening/night short walking tour along the popular Park of Inspiration <b>"Ylham Seyilgahi"</b> where there are statues of famous Turkmen Scientists, Poets &amp; etc. from early ages till modern time with descriptions about their personalities &amp; famous works highlighted by colorful night lights with vary fountains built along the alley. O/N in Ashgabat.</p>	<div>ALTEM CULTURAL CENTER</div>  <div>GULISTAN BAZAR</div>  <div>ERTOGRUL GAZY MOSQUE</div>  <div>AHAL TEKE HORSES</div>  <div>UNDERGROUND LAKE</div> 
2		ASHGABAT- GOK DEPE- BAHARDEN- NOHUR	<p>After breakfast departure in 4x4 cars to the north-west. Stop in the village of <b>Geok Depe</b>, "Green Hill".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit of the great and futuristic <b>Saparmurat Hajji Mosque</b>, with its sky-blue domes.</li> <li>• Drive to <b>private Horse stable</b>. Not far away there is a breeding of precious Akhal-Tekè horses, a true national pride of the Turkmen</li> </ul> <p>Continue driving to Baharden,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approaching underground lake of <b>Kow-Ata</b> (In translation to English – Father of Caves) . Entering magnificent auditorium of underground lake, 276steps down will be covered to reach clear and emerald colored, warm and running waters of Father's Cave.</li> </ul> <p>Then we go back to the first spurs of the Kopet-Dag chain, which marks the border with neighboring Iran, to reach the mountain village of <b>Nohur</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit of several centuries old tree – Chinar. We visit the unique cemetery, where each tomb is decorated with powerful mountain goat horns and /or ibex. A short path leads to the shrine of Gyz-Bibi, the goddess of fertility in the pre-Islamic era.</li> </ul> <p>Overnight in a guest house.</p>	<div>CENTEMARY IN NOHUR</div>  <div>SUMBAR VALLEY</div>  <div>DEHISTAN</div> 
3		NOHUR- SUMBAR- MADAU	<p>After breakfast we start moving west trough the <b>Kopet-Dag mountains</b> towards Karakala village, which is surrounded by low clay hills eroded in the form of calanques, a desolate lunar landscape. We'll drive along the border with Iran, passing by small pre-border settlements. Landscapes of this region are unbelievable, nearly every turn of the mountain road brings you new images, because we've entered <b>Sumbar valley</b>. This is truly a gem of Turkmenistan - a garden of flowers, fruit, fantastic nature of the subtropics. Sumbar valley is famous for not only the climate of grace and "lunar" landscape of the surrounding mountains, but also the hospitality of its inhabitants.</p> <p>Stop for lunch break in <b>Karakala (Magtymguly) town</b> - The birthplace of the great classic of the Turkmen literature, Magtymguly.</p> <p>Continue driving till <b>Madau</b> - a village in Balkan region.</p> <p>Dinner and overnight stay in tented camp, or in one of the local Guest houses.</p>	
4		MADAU- GUMDAG- BALKANABAD	<p>After breakfast, we enter the Takyr - a vast and desolate plain of clay soil, to reach the ruins of Dehistan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dehistan/Mishrian</b> was the principal city of Western Turkmenistan from the 10th to the 14th centuries. Located on a major caravan route from Gurgan in northern Iran to Khorezm.</li> <li>• Visit the <b>Mashat cemetery</b> which preserves the ruins of five mausoleums, including the one in Shir-Kabir, the oldest in the country (10th century).</li> </ul> <p>After excursion we get back to our vehicles, and drive north. We will pass through the <b>Gumdag</b> town. Proceed driving to <b>Balkanabad</b> - city in western Turkmenistan and the capital of Balkan Province. Formerly named as "Nebit-Dag" – (English – Oil mountain) Having lunch in local restaurant.</p>	

D	WD	ITINERAY	PROGRAM
		MOLLAKARA-  TURKMEN -BASHI-  AVAZA	<p>After lunch we will pass by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mollakara</b> - mud resort in Turkmenistan, in the western part of the Karakum desert, on the shores of the salt lake Mollakara, founded in 1908. Healing mud of the lake, whose water is highly mineralized, contains a large amount of sodium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium and bromine.</li> </ul> <p>Then we continue towards the Caspian Sea.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrival to Turkmenbashi - <b>The port-city of Turkmenbashi</b> (formerly Krasnovodsk) is the only major port in the entire Central Asia. From the East it is surrounded by low mountains, in the West the city is bordered by the waters of the Caspian Sea.</li> </ul> <p>After short city tour in Turkmenbashi, we'll arrive to the modern seaside <b>resort of Awaza</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The coast of the <b>Caspian Sea</b> is famous for its wonderful sandy beaches, clean, crystal water, abundance of sea flora and fauna. Awaza - a resort in the east of the Caspian Sea, the national tourist zone of Turkmenistan, at 12 kilometers from Turkmenbashi.</li> </ul> <p>Dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight in hotel</p>
5		AVAZA-  GOZLI-ATA-  KEMAL-ATA-  YANGIKALA CANYONS	<p>After breakfast, drive to famous and oldest <b>bazar &amp; fish market</b> - where you can buy the now rare and expensive Caspian caviar. Departure towards east passing through rare settlements of local shepherds to reach the remote mausoleum of <b>Gozli Ata</b> in the middle of a rocky desert.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Near the mausoleum, an important place of pilgrimage, stands a curious cemetery where the stone steles of the tombs have a small concavity on the summit to collect the poor rainwater and "quench" the souls of the deceased.</li> </ul> <p>After lunch in pilgrim house, we drive to <b>Kemal Ata mausoleum</b> located in canyon area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kemal Ata is widely believed to be a disciple of Gozli Ata, but his mausoleum is not the main purpose of visitors to this area. The Kaitarmysy spring is a favorite drinking place for local shepherds with their cattle, and borders a larger area covered with various rock formations made of dried-up lava.</li> <li>• Departure towards north-west to explore the most spectacular natural attraction of Turkmenistan: <b>The Yangikala canyon</b>. Yangi Kala means "Flamboyant Fortresses" and takes its name from the extraordinary colors of the bizarre limestone formations created following the erosion of the ground by wind and rain.</li> </ul> <p>Dinner and overnight stay in tented camp.</p>
6		YANGIKALA CANYONS-  BALKANABAD -  SERDAR	<p>After breakfast we leave for the modern city of <b>Balkanabat</b> once again, a small center of the oil industry and the only civilized nucleus of the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We visit the town and the bazaar.</li> <li>• The Monument to the Builders of Nebit Dag is evocative.</li> </ul> <p>After lunch departure towards East for a couple of hours on the asphalt road. Along the way we visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the <b>Mausoleum of Parau Bibi</b>. The small white tomb of Parau Bibi, built in a cave in the rock, is located at the top of a stairway of 269 steps, where a large number of pilgrims go along.</li> </ul> <p>Proceed driving to <b>Serdar</b> city - The city is located at the bottom of Kopet-Dag, in 175 km to the southeast from the administrative center of Balkan Region. Dinner in local restaurant. Overnight in small hotel (motel)</p>
7		SERDAR-  BALISHEM-  PORT OBA	<p>After breakfast, we'll drive North to explore the ruins of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ygdykala fortress</b> (1st century BC - IV century AD) an outpost of the Parthians built on the high rocky bank of the <b>Uzboy River</b>.</li> </ul> <p>We move Eastwards to slowly penetrate the heart of the Karakum desert, reaching one of the local settlements Balishem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Balishem</b> - a cluster of authentic desert settlements, located in low basins in the heart of the <b>Garagum desert</b>. Due to their remoteness and limited influence from modern urban development - hospitality, local traditions and nomadic lifestyle features continue to play a decisive role in these communities..</li> </ul>

DEHISTAN / MISRIAN

AWAZA RESORT

CASPIAN SEA

CASPIAN CAVIAR

VOLCANIC ROCKS

YANGIKALA CANYONS

BALKANABAT

NOMAD'S HOUSE IN BALISHEM





D	WD	ITINERAY	PROGRAM
			<p>We will have lunch in one of the village houses, being invited by local family. Turkmen bread called “Chorek” that have been cooked in traditional ovens – “Tamdyrs”, traditional drink called “Chal” made of fresh camel’s milk will be offered to our table next to freshly cooked hot lunch prepared by locals. We continue to drive through sandy roads that partly vanishing in Garagum landscapes and being covered by travelling dunes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In second part of the day we will pass some other villages and places of shepherd’s stays. In the afternoon we reach one of the local village called “Port”.</li> </ul> <p>Dinner and overnight in family’s house.</p>
8		PORT- DAMLA- AKMOLLA- MURZE- -CHIRLA	<p>After breakfast, we go through lost tracks between the dunes in the desert, meeting rare settlements inhabited by families of semi-nomadic shepherds who live according to ancient traditions, in clay houses or yurts, raising sheep, goats and dromedaries. We continue our off-road drive till late afternoon on a sweltering plateau cut to pieces by the advancing dunes, only meeting scattered shepherd families at the salt-water wells once every 50 km.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After several-hour drive we reach the settlement <b>Damla</b> (English - “droplet of water”) which is lost in the sands, far away from ordinary travel-routes.</li> </ul> <p>We will have our lunch in one of the local family houses. After lunch, the road will take us over high sand dunes and across hard, dusty takyrs – plains of hard packed clay – revealing us the “naked” bed of the prehistoric Tethys sea, which once covered huge expanses of Eurasia, and of the fabled Uzboy River, one of the beds of the Amu-Darya (the Oxus) that flew across the desert into the Caspian Sea. Yellow dunes occasionally specked with dark spots of vegetation, low bushes and beautiful desert “Christmas trees” of saxaul (Lat. haloxylon), make the endless and waterless ocean of sand an unforgettable picture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue driving off-road, arriving to the local semi-nomadic settlement <b>Murzechirla</b>. The people in these oasis are unique in their hospitable culture, traditions and dress. In the cooler evening hours, we will set up camp and make more new friends with the local tribe.</li> </ul> <p>Having dinner in Murzechirla, enjoying amazing sunset surrounded by sandy “mountains” of dunes encircling the village. Overnight in a national family house / yurt.</p>
9		MURZE- -CHIRLA  MARGUSH-  MARY	<p>After breakfast driving off-road till interception with main road connecting north and southern parts of the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep along a stretch of asphalt road, to reach the site of <b>Gonur Depe</b>. During the Bronze Age some villages arose at the so-called Oasis of <b>Margiana</b> along the <b>Murgab River</b>. The oldest of these settlements are still being excavated at the Gonur Depe site. The excavations reveal findings relating to 3,000 B.C. The most interesting ruins are those of the royal palace. Picnic style lunch on spot.</li> <li>Proceed driving to <b>Mary city</b>. Mary is the third largest city of Turkmenistan. It is located in a big oasis in the middle of the Garagum desert. Mary was founded in 1884 as a Russian military administrative center 30 kilometers from ancient Merv (by the way until 1937 Mary was called Merv). Today it is a major center of cotton industry, large traffic point and the main center of gas industry which brings the most revenues to Turkmenistan treasury.</li> </ul> <p>Approaching the city center. Accommodation and overnight in Mary.</p>
10		MARY-  MERV-  TURKMEN- -ABAD	<p>After breakfast, drive to <b>Old Merv</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ruins of Ancient Merv - one of the most important cities along the Silk Road from the time of Alexander the Great to the thirteenth century AD. The site became part of the <b>UNESCO World Heritage Site</b> in 1999. Now – state historical and archeological park. Sightseeing of <b>Gyz Gala &amp; Oglan Gala</b> (VI-VII), <b>Complex of Askhabs</b> (VIII-XIV), <b>Gyaur Gala</b> (IV BC), <b>Erk Gala</b> (VI BC), <b>Soltan Gala</b> (XI), <b>Soltan Sanjar Mausoleum</b> (XII),</li> </ul> <p>After lunch, drive to <b>Turkmenabat</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the second-largest city in Turkmenistan and the capital of Lebap Province. In ancient times, it was known as Amul (to be distinguished from the Iranian city of Amol). Located 245 km away from Mary (about 4-hour drive).</li> </ul> <p>Dinner in one of the local restaurants in Turkmenabat. Overnight in hotel</p>

TAKING SUN BATH

GONUR DEPE

ANCIENT CERAMICS

ANCIENT MERV

D	WD	ITINERAY	PROGRAM
11		TURKMEN- -ABAD  KOYTENDAG	<p>After breakfast, long drive towards the <b>Kugitang Mountains</b> located in the far east of Turkmenistan. (Approximately 8 to 9-hour drive)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the way, visit the <b>mausoleum complex of Astana Baba</b> - is a 11th - 12th-century monument of architecture. The mausoleum is a part of the memorial complex consisting of a mosque and a tomb. No one knows for sure who Astana-baba was. But the place where the mausoleum stands is considered sacred and healing. Number of pilgrims grows with each day.</li> </ul> <p><b>Amu Darya River</b> will be crossed not far from <b>Atamyrat Town (Kerki)</b> - The name of the city - Kerki - is a Turkified pronunciation of the original Persian name Karkuh meaning "Deaf Mountain. In 1999, the city was renamed Atamyrat. Closer to the end of of the drive the mountains come into view.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>highest peak of Turkmenistan, Airy Baba</b> (3139 meters high) will be seen. It is located in the <b>Koytendag mountain Range</b> of the Pamir-Alay chain on the Uzbekistan border.</li> </ul> <p>Arrival in the scenic village of Koyten. Dinner and overnight in local guesthouse on walking distance from <b>Lake Koyten</b>.</p>
12		KOYTENDAG	<p>Spend the day exploring the country's most scenic mountains – Kugitangtau, also called <b>Koitendag</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Their name is translated from Turkmen as “mountains of deep canyons”. Indeed, this ridge is cut by many deep canyons with steep cliffs, which make the sky sometimes seen only in a form of narrow strip over the head. There are the deepest lakes, the longest caves and even the <b>Dinosaur Plateau</b> bearing traces of these prehistoric reptiles. In addition, Koytendag Mountains are home to the country's deepest <b>lake – Kattakol</b>. We will Walk into the Umbar Dere Gorge to the local waterfall, and follow local pilgrims to the holy <b>Kyrk Gyz Cave</b> - inside the cave is a something which looks familiar but slowly reveals itself to be bizarre. The ceilings of the cavern are bedecked with a large number of stalactites. However, on closer inspection, one can see the stalactites are not stone, but cloth. Local legend has it that anyone who can fling a mud pie with a cloth attached to it to the ceiling of the cave and make it stick, walks away with a wish granted.</li> </ul> <p>Dinner and overnight at the guesthouse.</p>
13		KOYTENDAG-  TURKMEN- -ABAD  ASHGABAT 	<p>Return back to Turkmenabat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the way, visit of the <b>Kaynar Baba</b> sulphur spring. In the Karlyuk steppe, soaked with hot air and salt, there is one of the country's most unusual lakes – the Kaynar Baba. The lake is quite small in size – only 25 m in diameter. The water here is crystal clear and its bottom, besprent with small stones, seems very shallow. Arrival to Atamyrat, <b>stop for Lunch</b>.</li> </ul> <p>Proceed driving. Arrival to Turkmenabat. Taking night train to Ashgabat city (About 12 to 13-hour way)</p>
14		ASHGABAT-	<p>After breakfast in train, we start excursion in Ashgbatat city. <u>Please note that check in to the hotel will be possible to have after 12:00 afternoon.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will drive to Bagir valley located 18 away from Ashgabat, excursion to the nearby ruins of the <b>ancient Nissa</b> (UNESCO World Heritage Site), capital of the Parthian Kingdom (3rd century BC - III century AD).</li> <li>Visit of <b>Turkmenbashi Ruhy Mosque</b>, and family mausoleum of former president of Turkmenistan Saparmyrat Atayevich Niyazov. This is the largest mosque in Central Asia.</li> </ul> <p>Return to Ashgabat. Lunch in a local restaurant. Check in, and rest in a hotel. Preparation for morning flight to Dashoguz city. Dinner in a hotel or in one of the local restaurants</p>
15		ASHGABAT-   DASHOGUZ-  KONYE- -URGENCH	<p>Check heck out, transfer to the airport to catch a morning flight to <b>Dashoguz</b> city.</p> <p>Early in its history, it was a popular stop on the Silk Road. The modern city is a Soviet-designed city with many modern buildings, monuments, and museums acting as a local administrative and cultural center and rail junction. The Uzbekistan border locates just about 10 km away from us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drive to <b>Konye Urgench</b> (located 110 km away from Dashoguz (about 2- hour drive) Upon arrival - excursion in Konye Urgench - <b>the capital of Khorezmshahs</b> (III-XVI cc) Kunya-Urgench is a unique place on the globe. The magnitude and value of its monuments are indisputable. The architectural masterpieces of the city have been entered into the list of the World's Legacy of <b>UNESCO</b></li> </ul>

ASTANA BABA MAUSOLEUM

AIRY BABA PEAK 3139 M.

BEATY OF NATURE IN KOYTENDAG



DINOSAURS' FOOTPRINTS



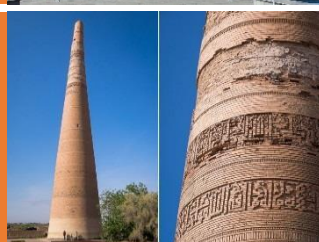
RUINS OF NISSA



TURKMENBASHI RUHY



MINARET OF KUTLUG TIMUR



D	WD	ITINERAY	PROGRAM
			SS of the old city includes: <b>Portal of Caravansaray (XI-XIV)</b> , <b>Mamun Minaret (X-IX)</b> , <b>Il Arslan Mausoleum (XII)</b> , <b>Sultan Tekesh Mausoleum (XIII)</b> , <b>Kutlug Timur Minaret (XIV)</b> - one of the tallest minarets in Central Asia, <b>Turabek Hanum Mausoleum (XIV)</b> . Lunch in local restaurant. In the second part of a day, drive back for a city tour in and around Dashoguz. Dinner in local restaurant. Overnight in hotel
16		DASHOGUZ- DARVAZA	<p>After breakfast drive South, to reach <b>Darvaza’s gas crater</b>, widely known as <b>Hell’s Gate crater</b> located 280 km away from Dashoguz (about 4 to 5-hour drive) On the way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit <b>Ruins of Yzmukshir Fortress (IX-XVI)</b> birth place of famous scientist Zamakhshary (XI-XII) who received a nick name “Fakhri Horezm” Proud of Horezm. This amazing site gives unforgettable imagination as of the fairy tales of famous 1001 Nights of Scheherazade, popular among locals of all parts of Turkmenistan &amp; nearby provinces of Uzbekistan Pilgrimage Site “Ashyk Aydyng Pir”: patron of musicians &amp; lovers.</li> </ul> <p>Approaching Darvaza:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>"Door to Hell"</b>, a crater of artificial origin that was created in the '70s as a result of the geophysical prospecting of the Soviets.</li> </ul> <p>Dinner and overnight stay in tented camp near the crater enjoying serene atmosphere of beautiful evening sky and flickering lights of the “eternal” fire.</p>
17		DARVAZA- ASHGABAT	<p>After breakfast in camp, 4-hour drive to Ashgabat city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the way, visit of two other craters with similar history of appearance (<b>Turquoise Lake Crater, Mud crater</b>)</li> </ul> <p>Arrival to Ashgabat. After lunch, we’ll visit City center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Independence Square</b> with the <b>Presidential Palace</b>, the <b>Ministry of Justice</b>, and the <b>Ruhyyet Palace</b>;</li> <li><b>National Museum of History and Ethnography</b>;</li> </ul> <p>Dinner in a hotel or in one of the local restaurants. Overnight in Hotel</p>
18		ASHGABAT	<p>After breakfast, SS in Ashgabat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ruins of <b>Seyitjemaletdin mosque</b>. (XV C.) Located about 14 km away from Ashgabat city, near to the local village Annau.</li> <li><b>Cableway</b> between Ashgabat and the foothills of the Kopetdag mountains, taking us up on altitude of 1270 meters above sea level.</li> <li><b>Carpet Museum</b> with the largest hand-woven carpet in the world;</li> <li><b>Arch of Neutrality</b>;</li> <li><b>Independence Monument</b>;</li> </ul> <p>Accommodation and rest in a hotel. Preparation for late night (early morning) departure back home.</p>
19		DEPARTURE	Check-out, transfer to Ashgabat International airport to catch flight to _____ Departure



# TOUR COST


Arch of Neutrality

TOUR INCLUDES (1 TL IS FOC)	TOUR EXCLUDES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visa support (Letter of Invitation, State Registration, Travel Pass)</li><li>• Transport: 4-wheel drive SUV vehicles with AC as per transport table above (3 PERSON SHARING)</li><li>• Accommodation based on DOUBLE hotel room as per table above</li><li>• Accommodation in guesthouses and camps as per table above. *Camping gears will be provided by our company</li><li>• Meals: HALF BOARD (Breakfasts in hotels and on spots + Dinners) 18 dinners</li><li>• ENGLISH (or other)-speaking local tour guide for all excursions as per program + on transfer upon arrival</li><li>• Entrance fees to the sites: (Private Horse stable, Kow-Ata Underground lake, Gonur Depe, Ancient Nissa, Ancient Merv, Konye Urgenc)</li><li>• Domestic train ticket TURKMENABAT-ASHGABAT (1-4 persons sharing compartment) If group less than 4 persons, 1 private compartment will be provided)</li><li>• Bottled drinking water en route (long transfers) 1 lt. pp/pd</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Turkmenistan visa (55+4 - 120+4 USD) per person, when obtained at border on arrival (citizenship dependent)</li><li>• Turkmenistan migration tax 10+4 USD per person, to be paid at border on arrival (subject to change)</li><li>• Photo/video fees at historical parks and in museums</li><li>• Tips for local guide and driver</li><li>• Entrance fees to sites NOT mentioned in the program</li><li>• Souvenirs and other personal items</li><li>• National folk show performance (To be paid in addition) (If requested)</li><li>• Entrance fees to National Museum of history in Ashgabat, Carpet museum in Ashgabat</li><li>• Domestic airfare ASHGABAT-DASHOGUZ flight ticket</li><li>• International airfare</li><li>• All other charges and services not mentioned under “Included”</li></ul>