

FIVE STANS ADVENTURE
The easiest way to explore Central Asia

TURKMENISTAN, ADVENTURE TO THE CASPIAN SEA 11 DAYS



In Brief: The Turkmen did a great job of constructing a modern port on the Caspian Sea (the largest enclosed inland body of water on Earth) to develop the export potential of their natural resources. You will be amazed how they converted the small city of Turkmenbashi into the big resort town called Awaza. It has a lot to offer those who prefer to relax on the shores of the Caspian Sea. It is nothing like being in Miami or other first class resorts in the world, but that small place will surprise you with a dozen 5-star hotels with great service. It is one of the best kept secrets in the world! Additionally, there are many interesting places to visit, such as the Memorial Complex (built for housing Japanese POWs during WWII), the Gate of Central Asia, and others. Also, there are interesting activities on the way, like meeting local Turkmen and learning how they go about their everyday life in a small mountain villages (Nokhur , Atamyrat and Koyten). Also, you will enjoy easy hikes on the nature trails, and beyond to breathtaking canyons. During your visit to the capital, Ashgabat, you will quickly notice that it is one of the most beautiful and fast growing capitals anywhere in the world. Every building and every corner is made from most expensive white marble and adorned with golden domes. Simultaneously, it will make you feel as being in the most unpopulated and empty places you have ever been. The country has a rich history, and our highly trained guides will provide you with fascinating information about the country's history by taking you to Merv & Mary to witness the fascinating, historical sites which are recognized by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites.

Day 1

Ashgabat

As soon as you arrive at the Ashgabat International Airport, our outstanding support staff will meet you and whose duty is to help you with all border formalities and collect your baggage. Their help is most essential, especially if you are traveling with your family or with a large group since airport logistics and procedures can be a challenge.

Once you have cleared customs, you will be met by a representative of our company who will welcome you to Turkmenistan and escort you to your hotel. Of course, they are there to assist you with your hotel accommodations and answer any questions you have. Depending on your flight arrival time you can have a rest or take a short city tour with your guide.

Day 2

Ashgabat

Today you will have a full day to explore one of the most developed and fascinating capitals in Central Asia. We will visit Turkmenbashy Ruhy Mosque (The biggest mosque in Central Asia), the Mausoleum of Turkmenbashy, Old Nissa (UNESCO World Heritage Site), Museum of Turkmen Carpets, various city monuments, a local mosque, parks, and other fascinating locations. In the evening, you will return to your hotel for a good night's rest.



Day 3

Nokhur Mountain Village

We start our day by driving 120 km (approx. 2 hours) to a picturesque village in a comfortable 4WD vehicle. Two popular places to visit en route are the Saparmyrat Khadji Mosque (inside the Geokdepe Fortress) and the Kow Ata Underground Lake. As soon as we arrive in Nokhur we will visit some of the attractions, including a breathtaking waterfall, a pilgrimage site, and the great tree. In the evening, we will learn about the silk textile hand weaving process. Accommodations in Nokhur.



Day 4 **Balkanabat**

Morning drive in a comfortable 4WD to Balkanabat (310 km) via the Paraw Bibi Shrine. Upon arrival there will be a short sightseeing tour in Balkanabat & Mollagara. Accommodations in the hotel.



Day 5 **Turkmenbashy via Yangyala Canyon**

Drive in a comfortable 4WD to Turkmenbashy (360 km) via Yangyala, Colorful Canyon, & Gozli Ata Shrine. Arrival & accommodation at one of the new, modern hotels of Awaza. Rest and relaxation on the shores of the Caspian Sea.



Day 6

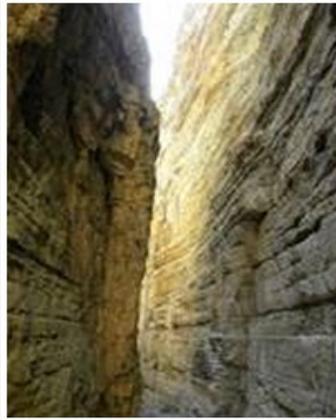
Turkmenbashy

Half Day sightseeing around Turkmenbashy, including the Gate of Central Asia, City Bazaar, Memorial Complex (built for Japanese II World War Prisoners) and other interesting sites. In the afternoon, you will fly to Ashgabat. Upon your arrival, you will visit the Monuments of Archabil Shayoly, Health Path of Turkmenbashy, Monument of Constitution, "Alem" Culture Center, Arch of Neutrality, and other interesting sites. Overnight in hotel.

Day 7

Koyten

Drive in a comfortable 4WD to Koyten (approx. 420 km). En route stop to visit the Astana Baba & Alembardar Mausoleums (XI-XIII). Arrival & accommodation at Tourist Base. Walking tour around village.



Day 8 **Koyten**

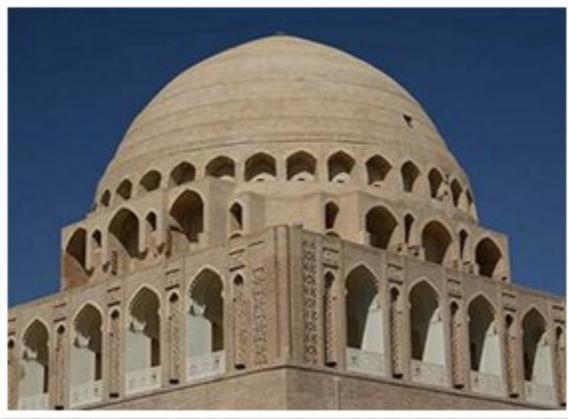
Full day expedition tour by comfortable 4WD & trekking includes: the Kyrk Gyz Gorge & Cave/Shrine (mostly visited by pilgrims), Plateau of Dinosaurs, Umbar Dere Waterfalls and Gorge. Return back to Koyten Village. O/N at Tourist Base at Koyten.

Day 9 **Atamyrat**

Morning drive by 4WD to Atamyrat (approx. 180km). En route stop to visit Gaynar Baba Mineral Lake, a popular site among locals for swimming. Arrival & walking tour at Atamyrat to visit the caravansarays of Atamyrat (Kerki) Town (XIX).

Day 10 **Mary**

Drive to Mary (approx. 470km) for half-day sightseeing of Old Merv (UNESCO World Heritage Site). Evening flight to Ashgabat. Arrival & transfer to hotel. Accommodations in Ashgabat.



Day 11 Ashgabat

We have another full day to explore Ashgabat. A great chance to visit the Altyn Asyr Oriental Bazaar which is open for business on Thursdays, Saturdays, & Sundays (best day is Sunday), National Museum of History, and various city monuments. At the end of the tour, you will return to your hotel for rest and relaxation.



Day 12 Ashgabat-Home

Transfer to the Ashgabat International Airport for flight back home.
End of Service.

Service includes:

- Airport transfers
- Transport for all transfers and excursions
- Double room accommodation + breakfast
- Mineral water during the tour
- Lunches and dinners
- Full-time service of your English speaking guide-interpreter
- Local flights
- Entry fees to museums

Service does not include:

- Single room accommodation
- International flight tickets
- Personal travel insurance