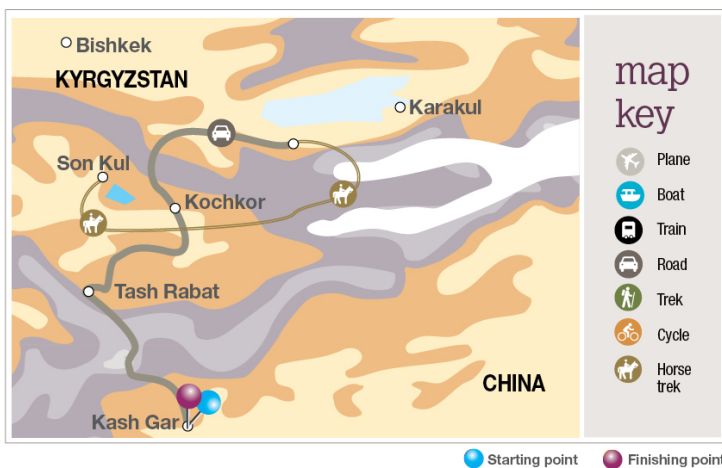


## Kyrgyzstan Horse Trek

This **moderate** trip explores the Tianshan grasslands and Issykul basin summer pastures on horseback. The trip begins and concludes in Kashgar, China. A few days cultural sightseeing are included but the focus of the trip will be the nomad heritage of the Kyrgyz pastoralists. The trip involves eight days on horseback with average daily ride stages of 20km, some homestays in villages and at summer yurt encampments and tents.

Visit Kashgar, Tash Rabat, Songkul Lake, Issyk kul.



Length of trip	<b>18 days</b> <b>9 trekking days.</b>
Accommodation	<b>Homestays, tents, Yurts</b>
Meals included	<b>Yes</b>
Travel Style	<b>Packhorse supported trek.</b>
Trip Leader	<b>Local English speaking guide</b>
Maximum group	<b>12</b>
Sightseeing and entry fees	<b>Included</b>
Commences	<b>Kashgar</b> <b>13<sup>th</sup> July 2012</b>
Concludes	<b>Kashgar</b> <b>31<sup>st</sup> July 2012</b>
COST	<b>NZ\$4900 per person</b> based on twin share. <i>(prices subject to change)</i>



## Itinerary at a Glance :

### Day 1 Arrive Kashgar

Met by our representative and transfer to the hotel.

### Day 2 Kashgar

Our full day programme in Kashgar includes a wander in the old city lanes and several cultural sites. Afternoon at leisure in this historic Silk Road city.

### Day 3 Kashgar

Today we are off to the renowned Sunday market. We start first at the colourful livestock market and then progress to the main bazaar where there is time to wander at your leisure.

### Day 4 To Tash Rabat (3500m)

Depart early this morning for the drive to the China-Kyrgyz border at Torugart Pass. Complete formalities and transfer to our Ger camp at the historic Tash Rabat caravanseri.

### Day 5 To Issyk Kul

Today transfer to our yurt camp on the southern shore of Lake Issyk Kul. The drive will take most of the day with a break for lunch at a Kyrgyz family home along the way.

### Day 6 Horse trek to Tamga Gorge

This morning we meet the horses, saddle up and set off for a 20km ride to Tamga Tash where there are early Buddhist petro glyphs. Ride back to the camp late PM.

### Day 7 Horse trek to Base camp (1900m)

Today we set out on our long distance ride into the Tersky Alatau mountains. Today the ride stage is 22km up to the site of the alpinist base camp where we set up our tent camp

### Day 8 Horse trek to Chegedek (2100m)

We have 18km to ride today to reach the camp site at Chegedek River Gorge. Along the way we will stop at shepherd family summer encampments. The route follows the river most of the way.

### Day 9 Horse trek to Dongoch (2600m)

The route of our ride today continues to climb through forested glades and meadows for 20km to reach the camp site.

### Day 10 Horse trek to Karaul Dobo (3500m)

We are climbing further into the head of the valley today, following the river and alpine meadows to the camp site at Karaul-Dobo.

### Day 11 Horse trek to Chunkural Lake (3675m)

We trek over into the headwaters of the Jilusuu River today. Our objective is Chunkural lake on the saddle between the Jilusuu and Barskoon rivers.

### Day 12 At Chunkural Lake

There is an opportunity for a ride up to Kysh-Korgan pass today. Return to the lake camp site for overnight.

### Day 13 Horse trek to Barskoon River. (2500m)

It is a 25km ride to reach the campsite in the Barskoon valley. There are a few steep downgrades to negotiate today but your sure footed horse is an 'old hand' on this trail.

### Day 14 To Tamga

This is the last day of the ride. Continue down valley to the end of the motor road and say farewell to the horses and crew. Transfer by road to Tamga for overnight in a village guest-house.

### Day 15 To Karakol

Today we are off for a short drive to Karakol for the market and sightseeing. Overnight in either Tamga or in Karakol.

### Day 16 To Kochor

Return drive towards the China border today as far as Kochor where we can participate in a felt making workshop and amuse ourselves and our hosts by attempting to erect a yurt.

### Day 17 To Tash Rabat

Today drive back to Tash Rabat.

### Day 18 To Kashgar and Conclude

We return to Kashgar today where our arrangements conclude with a transfer to the airport for the evening flight.