

KAKI 2023 – Best of Kazakhstan
and Kyrgyzstan with Miksture
01.05 – 17.05.2023



KAKI – Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan 2023

Our Best of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan tour combines the best of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, two land-locked countries with spectacular scenery, interesting historical and cultural sites, wide varieties of exciting habitats, and of course both well-represented with some of the finest Central Asian birds found in this fascinating region. We focus on the exciting Central Asian birds of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan's mountain, semi-desert, and steppe regions. Most habitats are so far present in Kyrgyzstan, although the steppe birds are by far the best experienced in Kazakhstan. During the Soviet era, most of Central Asia was closed to Westerners. The few ornithologists who visited Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan were escorted to bird sites near the capitals. Excellent bird sites, but certainly not adequate for the amazing avifauna. It is different today where visitors to a greater extent can choose. For the ornithologist, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan have a lot to offer and the bird life can be described as a cocktail of species from the Middle East, Siberia, and the steppes from eastern Austria to Mongolia. Several areas are ornithologically unknown and always contain ornithological surprises.

The theme is unambiguous - it's about observing as many of the region's birds - as good as possible. A journey that also gives participants the opportunity to enjoy magnificent landscapes and meet Central Asia's nomadic people. The countries of Central Asia have been ornithological dream destinations for years but are still logistically difficult to access. The journey also has an expedition-like character but is a quality product: maximum time in the field, excellent bird places, informal travel, and formidable nature. The ornithological ambition is a high priority, but there is room for ornithologists at all stages of knowledge, both beginners and old field rats. The most important thing is enthusiasm. The program is based, among other things, on Miksture's ornithological expeditions since 2003 as well as the undersigned's other experience in the areas. The journey in 2022 has been optimized in several points and only the best locations have been selected. Our comprehensive tour begins at the steppe in northern Kazakhstan, in search of the enigmatic Demoiselle Crane and the critically endangered Sociable Lapwing at their favored breeding grounds. Here we will also enjoy sightings of Pallid Harrier and both White-winged and Black Lark doing their displays over the steppe grasslands. Kazakhstan is a gigantic country and spans far ornithologically. Over 500 species have been taken in Kazakhstan, spread over many landscape types. In Kazakhstan, it is the steppe birds that most ornithologists think of and dream about. In the southern part of the country there are several unique biotopes: Turanga forest and semi-desert, and in general this region contains the most bird-rich localities. We continue to the semi-desert in SE-Kazakhstan and to Kyrgyzstan, in the beautiful mountains. We will search for specialties in their breeding grounds, such as Sociable Plover, Black Lark, White-winged Lark, Macqueen's Bustard, and the beautiful Caspian Plover. Wells in the area attract Pin-tailed, Black-bellied and the much-desired Pallas's Sandgrouse. Other targets include Saxaul Sparrow, White-winged Woodpecker and two species of Azure Tits. Later, in Kyrgyzstan, we'll drive up into the Tien Shan Mountain range where the highly sought after Ibisbill occurs. Many mountain birds live in the mountains which roughly considered form the northernmost Himalayas with Tien-Shan as the all-dominated mountain range. This applies to species that we also know from the central and southern European mountains. In general, there are many species that are also widespread in southern Europe, as well as many local breeds, the most distinct of which, presumably over time, will gain status as independent species. This applies, for example, to the local ssp of Black Kite *lineatus*, which is already considered by many to be an independent species, Black-eared Kite, White Wagtail ssp. *personata*, (Masked Wagtail), Azure Tit (nominal form and Yellow-breasted Azure Tit, Common Dipper ssp. *leucogaster* etc. Not only is a virtue made of seeing as many species as possible, but also as good as possible. Language spoken on the tour is English and one of the Scandinavian languages, The tour leader speaks English, German, Danish and Swedish. Prior departure, a detailed species list and Practical information will be sent.

Tour start: Nur-Sultan, capital of Kazakhstan 02.th May 2023

Kind regards

Tour Leader Miksture/Michael Westerbjerg Andersen



Day-to-day program

Miksture always aim to complete the journey according to the programmed, but it may be necessary, for practical reasons, to complete the program in a different order than indicated. We also point out that the journey is subject to local conditions, where both forces of nature and way of life are different than in our latitudes. This means that force majeure situations may arise with subsequent delays that, exceptionally, will lead to changes in the itinerary. Before departure (approx. one month) the updated program will be sent by mail. Please note the included meals. B (Breakfast - Breakfast), L (Lunch - lunch) and D (Dinner - dinner). Miksture of course is always available for supplementary information.

Day 1. Departure/arrival in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

01.05: Departure from Kastrup in Copenhagen to Kazakhstan's capital Nur Sultan on the steppe in northern Kazakhstan. Usually, arrival late night btw 24.th and 25.th. Nur Sultan is the newest capital of Kazakhstan. The city was built as a fortress city in 1824 and was named Akmolinsk. The name was changed to Tselinograd under Prime Minister Nikita Khrushchev. In 1991 the name was changed to Aqmola, but because the name Aqmola reminds too much of the Russian word "the white tomb" it was decided in 1998 to change the name to Astana, which simply means capital. It again changed its name to Nur Sultan in 2019. Kazakhstan is a huge land area. The country contains excellent bird sites spread over several interesting habitats: such as steppe, desert, semi-desert, and mountains. Until independence in December 1991, Kazakhstan was part of the USSR. With a population of just 17 million people (mainly residing in the cities), Kazakhstan is one of Eurasia's least populated. The steppes of northern Kazakhstan are part of the vast territory, which stretches from western Hungary to Mongolia in the East. The dominant type of landscape is grass steppe with a multitude of shallow brackish lakes.



Day 2-4. Kurghaldzino Nature Reserve

02.05 – 04.05: Kurghaldzino Reserve (Kurgalgino Reserve) Nature Reserve is the famous bird area where the Sociable Plover breeds, approx. 140 km from Nur Sultan. It takes a few hours, and we stop along the road at colonies of Red-footed Falcons, small lakes and whatever else catches our Ornithological attention. Here is located Kazakhstan's largest Nature Reserve. Kurghaldzino Reserve was established in 1968. We are accommodated in a guesthouse either in the Reserve or nearby. The best bird places are located outside

the Reserve. The small village of Kurgaljino serves the following days as an accommodation, from where we make excursions in the countryside. The program depends on the current road/weather conditions. The steppe is an endangered landscape type. We use our own bus and make easy walks in between. There are plenty of birds and even in the immediate vicinity of our property, you can spend days exploring the terrain and the birds. In the wind-blown landscape are numerous steppe lakes. On the open water surfaces and in the shallow areas waterfowl are seen. Whiskered and Caspian Tern, Dalmatian Pelican, the stately Greater Flamingo, twirling, Red-necked Phalarope in their smart breeding plumage, Marsh, Green and Curlew Sandpiper, Spotted Redshank, Ruff, Collared Pratincole, Barred, Booted, Blyth's and Paddyfield Warbler, the stunning Bluethroat, Eastern Yellow and Citrine Wagtail and Common Reed Bunting. Other species that we will carefully scan for include Saker, Lesser Kestrel, Steppe Eagle and Red-footed Falcon, Pallid Harrier, and the spectacular Demoiselle Crane. The drier areas hold Rosy Starlings, Turkestan Shrike and of course, Sociable Plover. As a rule, we are out early in the morning and return for lunch. In the afternoon we continue and explore new sites. BLD

Day 5. Kurghaldzino – Almaty

05.05: We leave the Black Larks for this time and heading south to the semi-desert areas of SE Kazakhstan. Early morning, we depart, and drive to the airport in Nur Sultan. From here we fly to Almaty, where we accommodate for a single night. BLD

Day 6. Almaty - Turanga Forest

06.05: Early morning we leave the hotel (we bring along breakfast and serve it later in the morning) and drive west to Turanga forest, Zhelturenga. Along the way we stop at water holes and small lakes. Here in western Taukum is a remnant of the peculiar Turenga forest. A kind of poplars which is home to several rare species. It's a sublime location we're going to visit. The forest is home to specialties such as White-winged Woodpecker, Yellow-eyed Dove, Striated Scops, Scops and Little Owl, Shikra, Turkestan, and Azure Tit. The attractive but sky Saxaul Sparrow is found in areas with shrub vegetation and is seen in the company of other Sparrow species. Our team set up tent camp in the Turenga forest. BLD

Day 7. Turenga-forest - Konchengel – semi-desert

07.05: After breakfast is done and the camp packed, we continue south through a warm but exciting desert landscape with small marsh-and-lake habitats. One of the specialties here is Black-headed Penduline Tit. Raptors include White-tailed Eagle, Steppe and Eastern Imperial Eagle, Shikra, Short-toed Eagle, Black Kite, etc. Today's target is Konchengel, in the Taukum desert which is especially known for desert birds such as Macqueen's Bustard and Caspian Plover and Greater Sandplover, which are sometimes seen right from the tent camp. We will check the water holes in the area carefully, which often act as a magnet for birds such as Indian Sparrow, Desert Finch, Calandra and Bimaculated Lark, Greater and Asian Short-toed Lark. At the ponds, we also have good chances for sandgrouse species, which may include Black-bellied, Pin-tailed and Pallas's. Other species we will seek include Saker, Pallid Harrier, Hoopoe, Collared Pratincole, Lesser Sandplover, Desert Warbler, Syke's Warbler, Roller, Temminck's and Little Stint, and Brown-necked Raven. At night, Common Nightjar hunt insects around the water holes and several times we have found Stone Curlew in the light of the torch. Overnight in tents. BLD

Day 8. Kochengel to Bishkek via Lake Sorbulak – Welcome to Kyrgyzstan

08.05: We approach the border between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, and after breakfast we head south. Before checking out from Kazakhstan, we visit the lake Sorbulak (reservoir). At this time of year, the lake offers two pelican species, and several species of waterfowl, as well as a large colony of Rosy Starlings. We continue to the border and usually the border crossing is swift, but we should expect an hour or two with the formalities. From the border, it is just a 45-minute drive to the city center and our comfortable hotel. Bishkek is



on a central Asian scale, a 'young' town from the turn of the 1800.th century, with a predominantly Russian-style settlement. The first impressions are voluminous government buildings and parks with typical USSR-memorials, etc. but there are also many picturesque small houses in Ukrainian style. The city exudes atmosphere, which is enhanced on warm early summer days, when the wide boulevards form the framework for the locals' trade in all kinds of useful things: Radio parts, oranges, cigarettes, a new kalpak? - Kyrgyz traditional hats with fur trim, etc. The permanently snow-covered Ala-Too Mountain range (with peaks over 4, 800 m.o.h.), forms a splendid backdrop for Kyrgyzstan's capital. BLD

Welcome to Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyzstan is one of the former Central Asian Soviet republics. With border to China in the Southeast, Tajikistan in the South, Uzbekistan in the West, and Kazakhstan in the North. Several large mountain ranges characterize the landscape. In the eastern part Tien-Shan; the Heavenly Mountains, and in the South, Pamir; on Kyrgyz Bosom-I-Dunjah –" The Roof of the World. For many years, Kyrgyzstan was almost hermetically closed to foreigners - including binoculars-armed bird watchers. The country's rich deposits of minerals and location meant that top-secret factories and military bases could operate undisturbed. It also meant that for more than 50 years the Kirghiz lived an isolated and decaying existence. But the presence of the Russians also meant progress: improved infrastructure, hospital services, jobs (e.g., in the weapons industry) and government-subsidized food. That is why Lenin's statue stands even more places in Bishkek, albeit as a faded symbol of a failed policy. And how could things be different when a leading Central Asian communist preached years ago: "I admire the genius of the Prophet Muhammad, who has preached the principles of socialism. I am happy that most of the principles of socialism are just the realization of Muhammad's instructions" The only reasonably navigable route the Silk Road from the Great Chinese cultures to the Middle East and European, ran like a branched road network through Kyrgyzstan, both north of Lake Issyk-Kul and south of the country. Although Kyrgyzstan was not favored by wealth to the same extent as Bukhara and Samarkand in Uzbekistan, in the wake of the Silk Road caravans, Kyrgyzstan received many new impulses, in the form of other peoples, languages, religions etc. What Kyrgyzstan lacks architectural sights, is matched by Central Asia's finest mountain landscapes. From a bird's eye view, the permanently snow-capped peaks are the All-dominant landscape form. 97% of the land area is made up of mountains, including some of the highest on the planet with peaks

over 7,000 m. The landscape is immensely beautiful. Everything associated with mountains exists. Here are stunning dimensions, pointed peaks, fabulous views, glaciers, valleys where mountain walls rise vertically and narrow the field of view, icy meltwater rivers with feisty whirlpools growing into small waterfalls, sprawling plains with nodding alpine flowers, snow-capped passes-an immense sanctuary for plants and animals. Welcome to Kyrgyzstan.



Day 9. Ala Archa and fishponds

09.05: Daily excursion to Ala-Archa nature reserve 35 km south of Bishkek. From the valley of pine and coniferous forests, the surrounding mountains rise steeply. A walk from the parking lot for approx. 1,400 meters altitude to the mountain at the top, alternating between plant belts. From the forest at the bottom to open spaces with alpine plants and rugged, raw plains, with flocks of ragged Ravens and vultures hovering over the glaciers. Marmots sit between fallen boulders and follow our movements. From the paths there is an



Mongolian Plovers, Son Kul, Kyrgyzstan

opportunity to see Ibex. Early morning, they graze on the slopes or along the mountain streams, while in the middle of the day they keep calm. The most energetic hikers can reach the snow limit and the Adygene glacier at 3,300 meters altitude and the less energetic can enjoy the views from the waterfall, or dust around the landscape. Ala-Archa was among the few places that Westerners in Soviet times, under the strict supervision of Intertourist guides, had the opportunity to visit. Fortunately, it's in the past. Today we can romp in the landscape, which is an ornithological gem with species such as: Lammergeier, Himalayan Griffon Vulture, Golden Eagle, Hobby Falcon, Himalayan Rubythroat, Black-Throated Accentor, Sulphur-bellied Warbler, Greenish Warbler, Blue-capped Redstart, Altai Redstart, Red-fronted Serin, Common Rosefinch, Red-mantled Rosefinch, White-winged Grosbeak, Common Dipper, Brown Dipper ssp. leucogaster, Azure tit, Blue Whistling Thrush, Eastern Turtledove, Common Mynah, Rufous-naped Tit, Black Kite, White Wagtail ssp. personata, Grey Wagtail, Mistle Thrush, Black Redstart, Humes Leaf Warbler, Bearded Vulture, Chukar Partridge, Rufous-naped Tit, Red-

headed Bunting and the delightful White-browed Tit-warbler!

We continue to the former state fishponds north of Bishkek, an area of lakes and landscaped fishponds. Today, commercial interest has long since disappeared, but the water-filled ponds attract large numbers of waterfowls. At the end of the afternoon, we return to the hotel and in the evening, we have a good dinner on your own in one of Bishkek's cafes. BL

Day 10. Bishkek – Tamga, Issyk-Kul Lake

10.05: We're going to Tamga. It takes most of the day to drive to Tamga, but along the way there are several interesting bird places. In recent years we have found Central Asia's southernmost population of Booted Warbler (together with Sykes Warbler), Richards Pipit and Rusty-Rumped Warbler. In addition, Citrine Wagtail is common, and in the lakes, there is several species of ducks. Accommodation in a cozy guest house with shared facilities and Azure tit in the garden. BLD

Dag 11. – 13. Barskaun Gorge, Jeti Oghuz, May Saz (Ibisill)

11.05 – 13.05: We have three days in the area. Long days await! Ibisbill and many other montane birds are on the program. The Jeti Oghuz Valley is one of the most peculiar mountain valleys of Kyrgyzstan. Red sandstones form a fantastic backdrop in a landscape consisting of low drought-resistant shrub vegetation and coniferous forest. We continue to the provincial capital Karakol (former known as Presevalski). We drive into the Tien-Shan mountains there e.g., the mythic Ibisbill. Opportunity for other exciting mountain birds: e.g., Himalayan Vulture, Mongolian Buzzard, Brown Dipper, Black-Throated Accentor, Pine Bunting, Grey-necked Bunting, Meadow Bunting, Sulphur-bellied Warbler, Humes Leaf Warbler, Red-mantled Rosefinch, Altai Redstart, Siberian Stonechat, and many other fine species. South of Tamga, a road goes up towards the Kumtor Mine (gold mine) and can be driven along it almost 40 km until you reach a large plateau approx. 3,800 m.o.h. A beautiful area with scattered small lakes and large grasslands. From the valley begins at Issyk-Kul and until it ends up in the mountains, the landscape changes as we rise higher. In the beginning gardens, fruit groves, extensively cultivated field plots, higher up coniferous forest that at 3500 meters altitude gives way to low juniper bushes. Lots of exciting birds of course. Target species Brown Accentor, White-tailed Rubythroat, Red-fronted Serin, Guldenstädt's Redstart, Eversmann's Redstart, Brown Dipper, Himalayan Accentor, Himalayan vulture, Lammergeier, Black Vulture, Upland Buzzard, Pied Whetear, Plain Mountain Finch, Black-Throated Accentor, in addition to several species mountain birds that we also know from the European mountains. Overnight in Tamga. BLD

Day 14 and 15. Tamga – Son Kul

14.05 and 15.05: We continue to the Lake Son Kul. A stunningly beautiful area with many good bird places as well as a hospitable nomad population. It takes most of the day to drive to Son Kul Lake located at 3,000 meters altitude on a large plateau with a tundra landscape and is known as one of the most beautiful places in Kyrgyzstan. Local shepherds from the Kochkorka Valley use the good grazing conditions in summer for their animals. Guests are welcomed and in addition to the interesting birds, there is also the opportunity to visit ethnic Kyrgyz in yurts and shop for a bite of the local cheese, drink fresh yogurt or fermented mare's milk; kumus. We visit several places: depending on the weather. Isabeline Whetear and Horned Larks are common. Son-Kul and its surroundings has status as Reserve, with



a population of Wolf and breeding ground for the beautiful Bar-headed Goose (although it no longer breeds every year). The surrounding mountains are excellent for montane small birds and in addition we can see Slavonian Grebe, Black Stork, Ruddy Shelduck. many duck species, Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Hobby, Lammergeier, Black Vulture, Himalayan Snowcock, Mongolian Plover

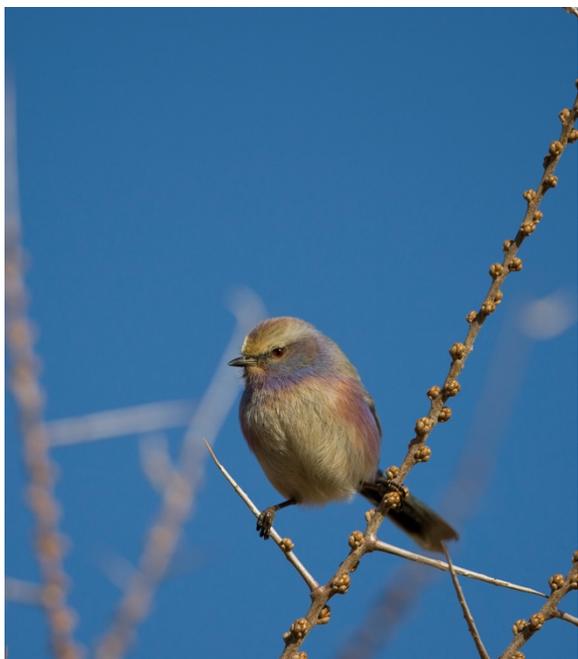
and several more common shorebirds, Black-headed Gull, Pallas Gull, Citrine Wagtail, White-winged Snowfinch, Altai Acentor, Black Stork, and Demoiselle Crane. Overnight in Yurt Camp. BLD

Day 16. Son Kul – Bishkek

16.05: Early morning we set course for Bishkek. We stop along the way at the Burana Tower and "Shrike-Boulevard" with Lesser Grey Shrike and Long-tailed Shrikes. Accommodation in hotel. Farewell dinner in a good cafe. BLD

Day 17. Homebound

17.05: Early up and transfer to airport. Welcome home! necked Raven. At night, Common Nightjar hunt insects around the water holes and several times we have found Stone Curlew in the light of the torch. Overnight in tents. BLD



Short Day-To-Day program

Day 1. Departure. Arrival Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

Day 2-4. Kurghaldzino Nature Reserve, Kazakhstan

Day 5. Kurghaldzino – Almaty, Kazakhstan

Day 6. Almaty-Turenga Forest, Kazakhstan

Day 7. Turenga-forest - Konchengel – semi-desert

Day 8. Kochengel to Bishkek via Sorbulak lake – Welcome to Kyrgyzstan

Day 9. Ala Archa; mountains and fishponds

Day 10. Bishkek - Tamga

Day 11 Barskaun Gorge

Day 12 og 13. Tamga - Jeti Oghuz – May Saz – Tamga

Day 14 og 15. Tamga – Son Kul Lake

Day 16. Son Kul – Bishkek

Day 17. Departure - Home



Mammals

Only few ornithologists are not interested in other aspects of nature such as mammals, plants, insects, amphibians, and the like. All places have exciting fauna elements, and the list below is just a selection of animals observed in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan: Wolf, Altai Red Deer, Wild Boar, and Ibex, Tolai Hare, Goitered Gazelle, Great Gerbil, Red Pika, Corsac Fox, Marmot, Horsfield's Tortoise and Steppe Agama Lizard.

This is a journey with an expedition-like character, where the participants must be set on a bit of everything: Hiking (easier hiking), several days where the transport can seem long. The activity level is adapted to the group's composition - but is basically high! Those who want a cool and exhausting level of activity will of course get what they want, while those who want a more moderate pace will also be catered for; most in fair condition can easily join. The trip does not deal with mountain climbing and the like, but the participants must be willing to go shorter and longer distances when the birds are to be found. We are going to be very outdoors and in changing weather. The trip is not recommended for people with walking difficulties. It is a good idea to get in shape before departure - it makes it much easier to get up the mountain slopes. Keep in mind that the air is thin at 3-4,000 meters altitude. On day trips we do not have to carry around a tent or large luggage - only a small backpack with what the individual finds necessary. Some flexibility is built in, so there is room for adjustments along the way. Everything is well organized, both in terms of transport, food, and accommodation. The days get long, but the reward is more experiences. The first hours of the day are usually the most productive and on any serious bird trip, you get up early! Ornithologists usually appreciate being with other like-minded people on a trip like this. On the other hand, it does not mean that the freedom of the individual is deprived along the way.

Central Asia is exciting, but conditions are somewhat different than most people are used to. The accommodation is not comparable to western standard, and the vehicles are less comfortable although air conditioning is now standard (except the days on the steppe) etc. We are subject to local conditions, so participants should show patience, flexibility, and forbearance. It is not always possible to be in the places at sunrise or at the times we find best. Things take time in Central Asia, especially the logistical (transportation) ones. Fortunately, it has gotten better over the years. The accommodation alternates between tourist class hotels, tents, cabins, and the like. The sanitary conditions can be primitive! We must share a toilet in several places and get bathing facilities with the others in the group. When staying in tents, these are excellent tents (2 in each tent). The large dining tent will be a central meeting place; where we eat and discuss the events of the day. Michael and the partners will, to the greatest extent possible, seek to comply with wishes. Sleeping bag must be brought on the round trip (possibly rented; contact Miksture).

Meals The food is excellent! On the round trip, we bring our own kitchen team that puts together the day's three meals. Good hearty, tasty and healthy home-cooked food in the best sense of the word based on fresh ingredients: Soups, poultry, vegetables, and pilaf - rice dishes with mutton and lamb and the indispensable bread nan. Tea and mineral water are served with meals. There will also be an opportunity to taste the local wine or traditional ku-



mus made from fermented mare's milk. Climate Distinct mainland climate which is locally influenced by the heights. It can get hot (up to 35 degrees Celsius) and in the valleys 20-25 degrees Celsius. It gets colder the higher we move up in the mountains. The weather in the mountains is notoriously unpredictable and can change lightning fast. In the mountains, there is also often a difference in the climate of nearby places, especially if they are located at different heights or orientations. The temperature decreases 2 - 1-degree Celsius per. 100 m, one moves up into the mountains. The stay in southern Kazakhstan will undoubtedly be the warmest part and is reminiscent of the climate in southern Europe, but we usually manage to alleviate the hardships a bit, and so far, we have always managed to implement both a humane and sustainable form of travel in this part of Kazakhstan. But more information about this before departure.

What to bring? Prior departure, Miksture submits a detailed bird list and Practical Travel Tips. In the meantime, reports from previous KAKI trips can be studied at www.cloudbirders.com or on Miksture's website: www.miksture.com

Of course, Miksture are available at any time for additional information.

Welcome!

Michael Westerbjerg Andersen, Miksture





Price include: Domestic flight ticket Nur-Sultan – Almaty, Kasakhstan • Full board during the stay in Kazakhsan and Kyrgyzstan • Guiding by Miksture/Michael Westerbjerg Andersen and his team • All transportation according program in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan • All accommodation in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan according day-to-day program • Necessary permits for Restricted Area sites • Local entries and fees in National Parks and other places visited according day-to-day program • Services of Miksture tour leader • Administration from Miksture • If needed - Visa support, e.g. Letter of Invitation

Price does NOT include international flight ticket (Miksture, of course helps to book the cheapest/best flight ticket) • Other transportation not mentioned in the program, domestic flights in homeland prior arrival/departure Kyrgyzstan • Beverage during the tour and at meals in restaurants and cafes • Arrangements not mentioned in the program • Tips to drivers and local guide in Kurgalgino, Kazakhstan (50 USD/participant. At tour start can be paid to Michael, that will give it accordingly during the tour – hotels, waitresses/waiters/drivers/local guides, etc.) • Travel insurance – mandatory! • Money for own expenses. • Visa (if needed; currently no need of visa for most foreign visitors in Kyrgyzstan) • Anything strictly personal (e.g., money for own expenses – actually very little needed, laundry, phone calls, any excess luggage charges, snacks).

Miksture/Michael Westerbjerg Andersen, *Owner of Miksture, Bishkek*

Mail: mic@miksture.com

