



PRIVATE TOUR · 2 DAYS

2 Day tour Charyn Canyon Kolsay and Kaindy lakes

Round trip from Almaty · Kazakhstan

Duration
2 days, 1 nights

Start and end
Round trip from Almaty

Best time to visit
All year

Private tour from
\$282 per person

Group size
Max 10 travellers

Tour type
Nature

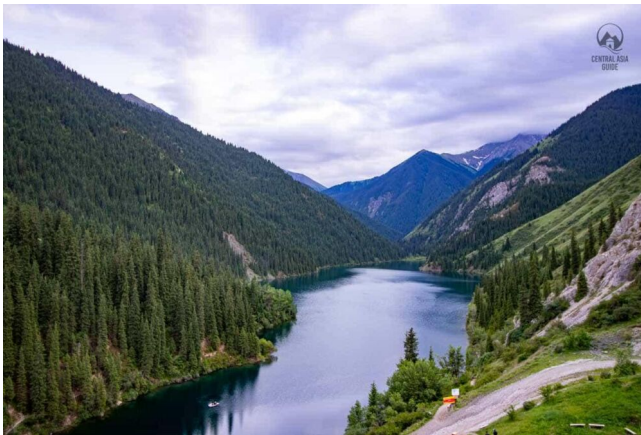
Difficulty
Easy

Prices and dates valid for 2026–2027 departures. Issued 19 October 2026.

Tour highlights

This 2-day private tour from [Almaty](#) takes you to three of Kazakhstan's best-known natural wonders. First explore [Charyn Canyon](#), carved over millennia by the Charyn River into a landscape that seems to belong to another world, on an easy walk along the canyon floor. In the afternoon, see the surreal sunken forest and crystal-clear water of [Kaindy Lake](#), then spend the night at a guesthouse in Saty village with dinner, a sauna and a campfire. On the second day, visit the alpine [Kolsai Lakes](#) in the Tien Shan mountains, where you can walk along the shore, go out on a boat or catamaran, or hike back to the village. On the way back to Almaty, stop at the Black Canyon viewpoint and, if you like, enjoy famous shashlik for dinner in Baiseit village – a relaxed mix of breathtaking scenery and quiet moments by the lakes.

Difficulty: Easy. Two long driving days with about 7 and 5 hours of travel (about 330 km on day 1 and about 310 km on day 2). Easy walks: about 4 km on the flat floor of Charyn Canyon (suitable for beginners) and about 3 km uphill to Kaindy Lake (around 2,000 m), which can also be done on horseback; walking or boating at Kolsai Lake. Comfortable walking shoes are enough.



Kaindy Kolsay Charyn 2 days tour



Kaindy Kolsay Charyn 2 days tour

Where you'll stay

Night 1	Saty	Guesthouse in Saty or similar
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Listed accommodation or similar, same category.

Day-by-day itinerary

DAY

1

Almaty – Charyn Canyon – Kaindy Lake – Saty Village

Depart from Almaty in the morning and drive to the spectacular Charyn Canyon (approximately 196 km / 3 hours), one of Kazakhstan's most remarkable natural landmarks. Enjoy a scenic walk through the canyon, admiring its dramatic rock formations shaped by wind and water over millions of years. The walking route is approximately 4 km round trip and suitable for beginners.

Enjoy a picnic lunch surrounded by the canyon's breathtaking scenery before continuing to Saty village (approximately 100 km / 1.5 hours), a charming mountain settlement and gateway to the Kolsai and Kaindy Lakes.

Continue to Kaindy Lake (approximately 15 km / 40 minutes), famous for its turquoise waters and the haunting sight of submerged spruce tree trunks rising from the lake. Explore this extraordinary alpine landscape on foot and enjoy the peaceful mountain surroundings. Improved road access allows regular tourist vehicles to reach the lake area without a separate 4WD transfer.

In the evening, return to Saty village and check in at a local guesthouse. Enjoy dinner and unwind with an optional sauna session or a relaxing evening around the campfire.

Overnight	Saty · Guesthouse in Saty or similar
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Meals	Lunch, Dinner
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Travel	Almaty – Charyn Canyon (196 km) Charyn Canyon – Saty (100 km) Saty – Kaindy Lake (15 km) Kaindy Lake – Saty (15 km)
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DAY

2

Saty – Kolsai Lakes – Black Canyon – Almaty

After breakfast, depart for Kolsai Lake, one of Kazakhstan's most beautiful alpine lakes, nestled among the forested slopes of the northern Tien Shan Mountains. Enjoy free time to admire the stunning scenery, take a leisurely walk along the lakeshore, go hiking, or enjoy an optional boat or catamaran ride, weather permitting.

Return to Saty village for lunch before beginning the journey back to Almaty. Along the way, stop at a panoramic viewpoint overlooking Black Canyon, where the Charyn River has carved a dramatic gorge through the rugged landscape.

Continue towards Almaty, with an optional stop in Baiseit village for dinner at a local café, famous for freshly prepared shashlik and traditional dishes. Dinner is at your own expense. Alternatively, return directly to Almaty and enjoy dinner independently.

Overnight	Departure day, no overnight
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Meals	Breakfast, Lunch
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Travel	Saty – Kolsai lakes (15 km) Kolsai lakes – Almaty (293 km)
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What's included

Included

- - 1 night accommodation with full-board meals at a guesthouse in Kolsai Lakes National Park
- - Meals: breakfasts, 2 lunches, and 1 dinner
- - English-speaking guide services
- - Entrance fees to all sites listed in the itinerary
- - Ecological fees
- - Daily mineral water (0.5 L per person)
- - Transportation

Not included

- - Accommodation in Almaty
- - Optional taxi during the Charyn Canyon walk
- - Personal expenses

Prices

Valid for 2026–2027 departures

Private tour, per person by group size

Travellers	Price per person
1 traveller	\$1,070
2–3 travellers	\$593
4–5 travellers	\$432
6–7 travellers	\$340
8–9 travellers	\$317
10 travellers	\$282

Private tours start on any date you choose. Prices per person in a double or twin room. 15% deposit, balance 7 days before tour starting date.

Book or ask a question

Choose a date or ask us anything about this tour. We usually reply within one working day.

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