



GROUP TOUR • 7 DAYS

Mangistau 7 days tour

Round trip from Aktau • Kazakhstan

Duration
7 days, 6 nights

Start and end
Round trip from Aktau

Best time to visit
Mar–Oct

Group tour from
\$1,150 per person

Group size
Max 9 travellers

Tour type
Hiking, Jeep (4x4), Nature

Difficulty
Moderate

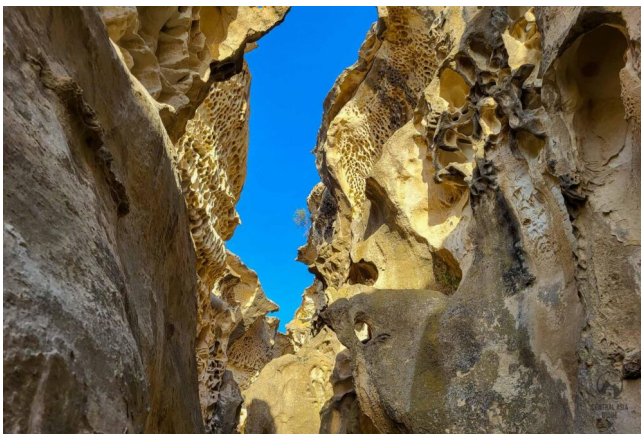
Prices and dates valid for 2026 departures. Issued 12 October 2026.

Tour highlights

Explore the wild desert landscapes of [Mangystau](#) in western Kazakhstan on this 7-day small-group camping tour from [Aktau](#). In one week you see 19 of the region's sights: the collapsed cliffs of [Zhygylgan](#) with their fossilized footprints, [Kapamsay Canyon](#), the cave mosques of [Shakpak-Ata](#) and [Karaman-Ata](#), the giant stone balls of [Torysh](#), the colorful Jurassic clays of [Kokala](#), the lone [Sherkala](#) mountain and the castle-like rocks of [Airakty](#).

Further east you walk on the white [Tuzbair](#) salt flat, camp beneath the famous limestone fangs of [Bozjyra](#) and watch the sunset over the layered cliffs of [Kyzylkup](#), the "Tiramisu Canyon". Nights are spent in tents under the desert stars, with one rest day and a night in a shared yurt at the Kogez ethno village, including a traditional Kazakh dinner and a cultural evening. The group is small, with a maximum of 9 travelers, and departures are guaranteed from one person.

Difficulty: Moderate. Daily drives of 1.5–6.5 hours in off-road vehicles, with 50–138 km off-road per day, short walks on uneven desert terrain, five nights in tents and one night in a shared yurt. Not suitable for children under 6, pregnant women or people with disabilities.



Mangistau 7 days fixed tour



Mangistau 7 days fixed tour

Where you'll stay

Night 1	Kapamsay Canyon	Tent Camping
Night 2	Kogez Ethno Village	Tent Camping
Night 3	White Arch (Tuzbair)	Tent Camping
Night 4	Kogez Ethno Village	Kogez Ethno Village
Night 5	Bozjyra (Boszhira)	Tent Camping
Night 6	Kyzylkup – Tiramisu Canyon	Tent Camping

Listed accommodation or similar, same category.

Day-by-day itinerary

DAY

1

Pickup from Hotel/Airport – Zhygylgan – Shakpak Ata – Kapamsay Gorge

Your journey begins in Aktau with pick-up from your hotel or airport, followed by a short briefing before heading into the Mangystau desert.

The first destination is Zhigylgan (Fallen Earth), a massive natural depression formed by ancient geological collapse. Here you will walk among dramatic cliffs and observe rare fossilized footprints of prehistoric animals, including saber-toothed cats, preserved in the rock.

After exploration, the journey continues toward Kapamsay Gorge, a peaceful canyon surrounded by tall limestone walls and quiet desert scenery. This area offers a first real taste of Mangystau's silence and vastness.

In the afternoon, visit Shakpak-Ata Cave Mosque, one of the most sacred and historical sites in the region. Carved directly into rock, this ancient underground mosque reflects centuries of spiritual heritage and offers a unique atmosphere of calm and mystery.

By evening, arrive at Kapamsay Gorge for dinner and camping under the canyon walls, surrounded by complete silence and desert stars.

Overnight	Kapamsay Canyon · Tent Camping
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Meals	Lunch, Dinner
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Travel	Aktau – Kapamsay Canyon (221 km)
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DAY

2

Akespe – Torysh – Kokala – Sherkala – Airakty

Akespe Gorge welcomes visitors with towering limestone cliffs and winding canyon paths, where dramatic rock formations create one of the region's most impressive natural landscapes.

At Torysh, also known as the Valley of Balls, explore the remarkable spherical rock formations scattered across the steppe, a unique geological phenomenon that continues to fascinate travelers.

The journey continues to Kokala, famous for its colorful Jurassic clay formations and layered landscapes shaped over millions of years.

Visit the iconic Sherkala Mountain, often referred to as the “Sphinx of Mangystau” due to its distinctive yurt-like silhouette rising from the desert plains.

In Airakty, walk among striking mountain formations that resemble ancient castles emerging from the desert terrain. The peaceful scenery and dramatic landscape make it one of the highlights of the region.

Enjoy a traditional Kazakh dinner served in an authentic yurt at Kogez Ethno Village before heading to the tented camp for an overnight stay surrounded by the unique landscapes of Mangystau.

Overnight	Kogez Ethno Village · Tent Camping
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Meals	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
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Travel	Kapamsay Canyon – Kogez Ethno Village (270 km)
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DAY
3

Zharmysh Village – Tuzbair Upper Viewpoint – Tuzbair Salt Flat – White Arch

The morning begins with breakfast in the desert before traveling toward Zharmysh Village, where you will enjoy a traditional homemade lunch in a local guesthouse, experiencing authentic rural Kazakh hospitality.

Afterward, continue to Tuzbair Upper Viewpoint, where a breathtaking panorama opens over endless white salt flats, cliffs, and horizon lines that seem to disappear into infinity.

Next, descend into the Tuzbair Lower Salt Flats, walking across a surreal landscape of white crusted ground and ancient seabed formations. The silence and scale of this area create one of the most memorable experiences of the tour.

In the evening, reach White Arch, a natural rock formation and your camping site for the night. Enjoy sunset over the salt desert followed by dinner under the open sky.

Overnight	White Arch (Tuzbair) · Tent Camping
Meals	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Travel	Kogez Ethno Village – White Arch (Tuzbair) (279 km)

DAY
4

Ethnic village experience – Rest day

After several days of exploration across Mangystau, this day is dedicated to rest, cultural immersion, and authentic local experiences.

The morning starts at 8:00 with a peaceful outdoor breakfast in Tuzbair, surrounded by the vast white salt landscapes. At 9:00, the journey continues with a drive of approximately four hours to Kogez Ethno Village.

Upon arrival around 13:00, guests experience the traditional Kazakh lifestyle in an authentic yurt setting. There is time for lunch, followed by a shower and rest to relax after the journey. In the evening from 19:00, guests enjoy a traditional dinner inside the yurt, followed by a cultural night showcasing local traditions and atmosphere.

Accommodation is in a shared yurt at Kogez Ethno Village. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included.

Overnight	Kogez Ethno Village · Kogez Ethno Village
Meals	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Travel	White Arch (Tuzbair) – Kogez Ethno Village

DAY
5

Bozjyra National Park (Mars Panorama, Dragon Crest) – Bozjyra Fangs – Bozjyra Lower Part – camping under the Fangs formation

Today you enter one of the most iconic landscapes in Kazakhstan: Bozjyra National Park.

Start with the Mars Panorama, where red and white cliffs resemble a surface from another planet. Then continue to the Dragon Crest viewpoint, offering sweeping views over endless white chalk formations.

The highlight of the day is the legendary Bozjyra Fangs, two massive limestone formations rising sharply from the desert floor. This is one of the most photographed landmarks in Central Asia.

Later, descend to the Lower Bozjyra area, where the full scale of the cliffs becomes even more impressive.

In the evening, set up camp directly beneath the Fangs, enjoying a surreal sunset and one of the most unforgettable nights of the journey.

Overnight	Bozjyra (Boszhira) · Tent Camping
Meals	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Travel	Kogez Ethno Village – Bozjyra (Boszhira) (142 km)

DAY
6

Baisary – Bokty – Kyzylkup Canyon

After sunrise at Bozjyra, begin the journey toward Baisary Plateau, a vast open landscape where desert meets rock formations and endless horizon lines.

Continue to Bokty Mountain, a pyramid-shaped natural monument rising sharply from the desert. Its isolated and geometric form makes it one of Mangystau's most iconic landmarks.

In the afternoon, arrive at Kyzylkup (Tiramisu Canyon), famous for its colorful layered cliffs resembling dessert layers. The landscape changes colors depending on light, creating a surreal visual effect.

Enjoy sunset and camping in this unique canyon environment.

Overnight	Kyzylkup – Tiramisu Canyon · Tent Camping
Meals	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Travel	Bozjyra (Boszhira) – Kyzylkup – Tiramisu Canyon (50 km)

DAY
7

Karaman Ata – Ybyk Gorge – Return to Aktau (Hotel Drop-off)

Visit Karaman Ata, one of Mangystau's most significant underground mosques and an important pilgrimage site carved directly into the rock.

Continue to Ybyk Gorge, where steep canyon walls and narrow winding passages showcase the wild and dramatic beauty of Mangystau's desert landscapes.

After exploring the gorge, return to Aktau City. Participants will be dropped off at their respective hotels, marking the end of the tour.

Overnight	Departure day, no overnight
Meals	Breakfast, Lunch
Travel	Kyzylkup – Tiramisu Canyon – Aktau (364 km)

What's included

Included

- English-speaking local guide
- All transport during the tour, with pick-up at your hotel or the airport in Aktau on day 1 and drop-off at your hotel in Aktau on day 7
- Three meals per day (local food cooking), except breakfast on day 1 and dinner on day 7
- 5 nights camping (tent, sleeping bag, pillow, bedsheet)
- One night at the Kogez Yurt Camp (shared yurt with your group)
- Storage for your luggage and large bags during the tour
- Accident insurance coverage
- All entrance fees

Not included

- Visa fees
- International and domestic airfare
- Expenses due to unexpected weather (e.g., extra guesthouse or hotel stays)
- Accommodation on arrival and departure days in Aktau
- Breakfast on day 1 and dinner on day 7

Prices

Valid for 2026 departures

Group tour, per person

Tour	Double / twin room	Single supplement
7 days	\$1,150	–

Same price on all departures. \$69 deposit, balance one month 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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Email	info@central-asia.guide
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Phone and WhatsApp	+358 40 812 4448
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