TAF TRAVEL · TOUR INFORMATION

Ararat Ski Tour 7-Day Expedition

Duration	7 days
Difficulty	3/5 · Demanding
Participants	1–12 requests · departure confirmed at 4 participants
Season	March–May

Day-by-day program

Day 1 – Arrival and transfer to Doğubayazıt

Arrive at Van, Iğdır, or Ağrı airport and transfer to the hotel in Doğubayazıt. Use the evening to prepare for the high-altitude expedition. Accommodation: hotel. Meal: dinner.

Day 2 – First base camp at 2,700 metres

Drive toward Mount Ararat, continue from the lower trailhead with your ski equipment, and establish the first base camp at 2,700 metres. Accommodation: tent. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 3 – Altitude adaptation

Ascend to the second campsite at about 3,600 metres for altitude exposure, then return to the base camp at 2,700 metres to rest and prepare. Accommodation: tent. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 4 – Second base camp at 3,600 metres

Ascend to the second base camp, explore the surrounding terrain, and prepare for the early summit attempt. Accommodation: tent. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 5 – Summit day at 5,137 metres

Start around 3:00 a.m. for the final ascent of Mount Ararat. After reaching the summit, descend on skis when conditions allow, then return to the first base camp. Accommodation: tent. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 6 – Doğubayazıt and cultural excursion

Descend to Doğubayazıt, relax at the hotel, and visit a traditional Turkish bath and the historic İshak Paşa Palace. Accommodation: hotel. Meals: breakfast and dinner.

Day 7 – Departure

Transfer to Van, Iğdır, or Ağrı airport for your onward journey. Meal: breakfast.

Program Changes

Although every tour is carefully planned, unforeseen circumstances may require changes to the itinerary. These may include weather conditions, changes in local regulations, political decisions, access restrictions, or participants' health and safety needs.

Whenever possible, TAF Travel will adapt the itinerary while preserving the main character of the trip. If the original program cannot reasonably be carried out, we will make every effort to arrange a suitable alternative of comparable quality, subject to local conditions and availability.

Participants' safety remains our priority. Any necessary changes will be communicated as clearly and promptly as possible.

On our ski tours, campsite locations and elevations may vary depending on snow depth, snow cover, and access conditions. The mountain guide will determine suitable camping areas based on the conditions at the time, prioritizing the group's safety. These adjustments may also affect daily routes, distances, and ascent or descent times.

Included services

- Accommodation and meals according to the program
- All transfers in Turkey according to the program
- Authorization for the Mount Ararat ascent
- Entrance fee to Ararat National Park
- Licensed German- or English-speaking mountain guide
- Full board and Kurdish cook on the mountain
- Horse transport for luggage to camp
- Two-person tent and sleeping mats; single tent available for a supplement

Excluded services

- Flights, available on request
- Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages
- Individual excursions and visits outside the program
- Personal expenses

Terms and conditions

- A non-refundable deposit is due at booking: 25% of the tour price without a flight ticket, 50% with a flight ticket.
- For a cancellation 15 days or less before the tour starts, 75% of the total tour price on the invoice is payable.
- For flights, the airline’s conditions apply. Paid flights are not reimbursed by TAF Travel.
- Price changes can follow currency fluctuations. No price increase applies within 20 days of departure; if a price rises by more than 5%, you may withdraw free of charge.
- If the minimum number of participants is not reached, TAF Travel may cancel up to 2 weeks before departure and refunds the tour price.

Full terms and conditions: https://www.taftravel.com/terms-and-conditions

Possible itinerary changes

Mountain and travel programs depend on conditions that cannot be fixed in advance. The guide or TAF Travel may change the order of days, camps, overnight stays or the route, or cancel parts of the program, for these reasons:

- Weather, snow, wind or avalanche conditions
- Safety assessment by the guide on the day
- Health and acclimatization of participants
- Permits, national park, border or government regulations
- Road access, transport, flight schedules and local conditions
- Unforeseeable events beyond TAF Travel’s control

The confirmed program and the guide’s instructions apply. Saved expenses are reimbursed when parts of the program are cancelled for safety reasons.

Equipment list

Essential personal equipment

- Passport and a copy stored separately

- Travel insurance that covers the route, rescue and evacuation where relevant
- Personal medication and any prescription details
- Comfortable daypack for water, layers and personal essentials
- Water bottles or hydration system sized for the day
- Headlamp with spare batteries
- Sun hat, high-SPF sunscreen and lip protection
- Glacier glasses or ski goggles with reliable UV protection
- Waterproof jacket and overtrousers
- Layered clothing with a warm mid-layer and insulated jacket
- Warm hat, neck protection and gloves with a spare pair
- Mountaineering boots compatible with the confirmed crampons
- Touring skis, skins, ski-touring boots and poles suited to the route
- Ski goggles plus glacier glasses for changing light
- Windproof and waterproof ski or alpine layers for the exposed sections

Recommended or optional

- Avalanche transceiver, shovel and probe only if required by the current plan
- Ski straps and wax suited to the snow conditions
- Thermos for early starts and cold camps
- Cold-rated sleeping bag for high camps; confirm the comfort rating with the team
- Dry bags or waterproof protection for clothing and electronics
- Personal energy snacks for long walking or summit days
- Gaiters for snow, wet grass and loose ground
- Light shoes or sandals for accommodation and rest

TAF Travel provides or arranges

- Licensed mountain guide, mountain meals, cook and camp support as listed
- Transfers in Türkiye according to the selected ski itinerary
- Mount Ararat authorization and park entrance when stated for the program
- Horse luggage support, two-person tent and sleeping mats where listed

Rent or confirm with the team

- Whether skis, skins, boots, avalanche equipment and crampons are provided or must be brought

TAF Travel contact

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