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Mount Elbrus · 9 days

North–South Traverse of Elbrus

Ascend Mount Elbrus from the north and descend on the southern side, crossing both faces of the mountain in one guided expedition.

Currently unavailable

TAF Travel is currently unable to operate Mount Elbrus tours because of the current political situation in Russia and related cross-border travel conditions in the Caucasus. Departure dates have been removed, and we are not accepting reservations for these programs at this time.



[Prepare for this journey](#)[View the tour brief and equipment checklist](#)[Essential details, route requirements and what to pack.](#) ↗ [Printable guide](#)[Download tour PDF](#) ↗

Mount Elbrus overview

About the North–South Traverse of Elbrus

This route is more demanding yet more scenic than the southern approach. It links the waterfalls, mineral springs, Stone Mushrooms, and natural bridge of the northern Elbrus region with the southern cable-car descent, without heavy backpack carries on the summit day.

- ✓ Northern Elbrus waterfalls and mineral springs
- ✓ Emmanuel Glade and the high camp
- ✓ Traverse from north to south
- ✓ Both summit options when time and conditions allow

At a glance



Duration

9 days



Difficulty

2/3 · Demanding



Group size

6 people minimum · up to 3 climbers per guide



Best season

June–September

Currently unavailable

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Price from

2,450 EUR

This route is not currently operating. We will review availability when conditions allow.

Mount Elbrus itinerary

The North–South Traverse of Elbrus itinerary

The itinerary follows the source-based Elbrus program, presented in the TAF Travel format for future reference.

Day 1

01

Arrival

Meet at Mineralnye Vody Airport at any time, or arrive through Tbilisi or Kutaisi the day before. Transfer to the office, meet the guide, check and rent equipment, and settle into a twin room at a 3-star hotel.

Day 2

02

Transfer to the northern route

Travel toward the north side of Elbrus. A short hike leads to Emmanuel Glade, the base camp for the northern route. Explore the Jily Su area with its waterfalls and mineral springs.

Day 3

03

First acclimatization

Climb toward the high camp at 3,800 metres, leaving part of your personal equipment there for the next day. Return to Emmanuel Glade for the night.

Day 4

04

High camp

Move the remaining personal gear up to the high camp and settle into the huts. The route passes alpine meadows and a lunar landscape before reaching the glacier.

Day 5

05

Acclimatization to 5,000 m

Make an early acclimatization hike to Lenz Rocks at 5,000 metres. Carry only snacks, a thermos, and water while the group adapts to the thin air.

Day 6

06

Rest at the Stone Mushrooms

Rest before the climb and take a short walk to the Stone Mushrooms, one of the northern region's notable natural landmarks. Turn in early for the summit attempt.

Day 7

07

Traverse and summit day

Wake around 22:00 and climb toward the summit. After the eastern summit, descend to the saddle; if time and strength permit, the guide may continue to the western summit. Descend on the south side, then use a snowcat and cable car to reach the village and hotel.

Day 8

08

Spare day

Keep a reserve day for poor weather. If it is not needed, relax in the village or choose an optional excursion before transferring to the city and hotel in the afternoon.

Day 9

09

End of the program

Individual transfer to Mineralnye Vody, Tbilisi, or Kutaisi Airport at the agreed time.

Mount Elbrus tour inclusions

What is included in the North–South Traverse of Elbrus

- ✓ Travel manager assistance and help with flight booking
- ✓ Tourist invitation when required
- ✓ Professional mountain guides with no more than 3 climbers per guide
- ✓ Airport pickup and return transfer from Mineralnye Vody
- ✓ Eight nights in a 3-star hotel and mountain huts
- ✓ Full board on the route and lunch boxes on outings
- ✓ Program transfers, snowcat, and cable-car descent
- ✓ Group equipment, porters, rescue registration, and emergency oxygen
- ✓ National park entry and Elbrus ascent certificate

Not included

- Flights to Mineralnye Vody, Tbilisi, or Kutaisi
- Transfers from Tbilisi or Kutaisi unless arranged
- City and village lunches and dinners
- Personal gear and clothing
- Mandatory mountaineering insurance

Mount Elbrus availability

Current availability for North–South Traverse of Elbrus

Departure dates and reservation prompts have been removed while this operating pause is in effect.

Currently unavailable

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Operational notice

We will review North–South Traverse of Elbrus when conditions change.

TAF Travel is currently unable to operate Mount Elbrus tours because of the current political situation in Russia and related cross-border travel conditions in the Caucasus. Departure dates have been removed, and we are not accepting reservations for these programs at this time.



TAF Travel

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TAF Travel · Information

TAF Travel Terms & Conditions

Our general terms and conditions

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Questions?

Please contact TAF Travel before booking if you need clarification about a tour or its conditions.

[Contact us](#) ↗

TAF Travel

TAF Travel terms for mountain, trekking, and ski tours

Preliminary Remark

All tours and courses are carefully prepared by us. Many offers involve adventure, risk, and uncertainty, which gives them a special appeal. Despite our best intentions, we cannot guarantee subjective travel expectations or individual preferences. Especially in mountain sports, there is an increased risk of accidents, which cannot be completely ruled out. Customers must exercise considerable personal responsibility and caution. Services included in the price are part of the contract. The scope of services is based solely on the travel confirmation and the advertisement in the brochure or online.

Travel Contract / Registration

Cancellation by the Customer and Payment Obligation

- If a cancellation occurs 15 days or less prior to the tour start date, the participant is obliged to pay 75% of the total tour price stated on the invoice. Once the invoice is sent to the participant, these terms are considered accepted.

- This deposit is non-refundable. The prepayment percentage you pay serves as the penalty deducted in case of tour cancellation:
 - A: Deposit without flight ticket: 25%
 - B: Deposit with flight ticket: 50%

!!! Prepayment percentages are strictly non-refundable.

For flight services, the airline's commercial and cancellation conditions apply. Paid flights will not be reimbursed by TAF Travel; the customer must seek any possible (partial) reimbursement directly from the airline.

Tour group policy. Solo travelers may join Mount Ararat and Kilimanjaro tours. Mount Ararat 6-day and 7-day departures require at least 4 participants; both Kilimanjaro routes require at least 3. Other tours are available only to existing groups of at least 6 people; TAF Travel does not assemble open groups for those tours.

Changes in Service and Price After Contract Conclusion

In case of a subsequent price change, the tour operator will immediately inform the customer. The main reason may be currency risks due to fluctuations in the € rate. Price increases within 20 days before departure are ineffective. In case of a price increase exceeding 5%, the customer is entitled to withdraw from the travel contract without charge or request participation in a tour of at least equivalent value, if the tour operator can offer such a tour without additional cost. These rights must be asserted immediately upon notification of the price increase.

Cancellation and Termination by the Organizer

The organizer may terminate the contract in the following cases:

1. If the customer persistently disrupts the event, fails to meet advertised requirements despite warnings, endangers the planned execution, or breaches the contract to an extent that justifies immediate termination. In such a case, the organizer retains the right to the travel price and offsets saved expenses.
2. Up to 2 weeks before departure, if the minimum number of participants is not reached. The organizer must immediately notify the customer and refund the travel price.
3. The organizer / course leader reserves the right to change or cancel the program for safety or unforeseen reasons. Saved expenses will be reimbursed.

Limitation of Liability

1. Our contractual liability is limited to three times the travel price, unless damage is caused intentionally or by gross negligence, or solely by a service provider's fault.
2. We are not liable for third-party services, luggage damage (including theft), delays due to traffic, or timetable changes.
3. Liability is excluded or limited to the extent permitted by law.
4. In case of unforeseeable or uncontrollable events, the customer has no claim for compensation or impaired service.

Invalidity of individual provisions does not render the entire contract invalid.



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