

Kaçkar Mountains 11-Day Tour

Duration	11 days
Difficulty	2/5 · Moderate
Participants	6 people minimum · up to 12 people
Season	July–September

Day-by-day program

Day 1 – Arrival in Erzurum

Arrive in Erzurum and transfer to the hotel. Enjoy a first glimpse of northeastern Turkey's mountains.
Accommodation: hotel. Meals: dinner.

Day 2 – Erzurum, Tortum and Yaylalar

Drive through the Çoruh Gorge and along Tortum Lake to Yaylalar, the base for the mountain section.
Accommodation: tent or guesthouse. Meals: dinner.

Day 3 – Acclimatization around Yaylalar

Hike through flower meadows and over Bodot Pass. About 15 km; 700 m ascent; 600 m descent; 7–8 hours.
Accommodation: tent. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 4 – Bulut Dağı and Dibe Valley

Walk through alpine landscapes and villages in the Dibe Valley, with time to meet local residents. About 18 km; 900 m ascent; 950 m descent; 8–9 hours. Accommodation: camp in Olgunlar. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 5 – Alpine meadows to Dilberdüzü Camp

Cross alpine meadows and pass nomadic settlements on the way to Dilberdüzü Camp. About 14 km; 600 m ascent; 250 m descent; 6–7 hours. Accommodation: camp. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 6 – Kaçkar Dağı summit

Make the demanding summit ascent to Kaçkar Dağı at 3,937 metres, with views of glacial lakes, snowfields, and surrounding peaks. About 12 km round trip; 1,200 m ascent and descent; about 8 hours. Accommodation: camp. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 7 – Descent to Yaylalar

Descend through alpine meadows and reflect on the summit experience. About 10 km; 200 m ascent; 1,200 m descent; 3–4 hours. Accommodation: tent. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 8 – Naletleme Pass and Aydar Valley

Cross Naletleme Pass and descend through rhododendron forests and mountain landscapes to Aydar Valley. About 16 km; 400 m ascent; 2,000 m descent; 7–8 hours. Accommodation: guesthouse. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 9 – Ayder and transfer to Trabzon

Relax in Ayder's hot springs, then transfer in the afternoon to the Black Sea coast and your hotel in Trabzon. Meals: breakfast and dinner.

Day 10 – Trabzon culture

Visit Sumela Monastery and the Hagia Sophia Museum, then explore Trabzon's bazaar. Accommodation: hotel. Meals: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 11 – Departure from Trabzon

Transfer to the airport for your onward journey. Meal: breakfast.

Included services

- Admissions according to the program
- Hotel accommodation and simple local guesthouses during the mountain tour
- Two mountain camping nights with tents and cookware
- Luggage transport during the mountain section, up to 15 kg per person
- All meals according to the program
- Cook and accompanying support team during the trekking section
- Mule luggage transport
- English- and German-speaking mountain and trekking guide

Excluded services

- Flights, available on request
- Alcoholic drinks
- Personal expenses
- Individual activities
- Single-room supplement

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.tafrtravel.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
- Waterproof jacket and overtrousers
- Layered clothing with a warm mid-layer and insulated jacket
- Warm hat, neck protection and gloves with a spare pair
- Broken-in hiking boots with a firm, grippy sole
- Trekking poles suited to uneven ground
- Spare walking socks and a dry base layer
- Dry bags or waterproof protection for clothing and electronics

Recommended or optional

- Cold-rated sleeping bag for high camps; confirm the comfort rating with the team
- Insulated sleeping mat when the route does not include a mat
- Gaiters for snow, wet grass and loose ground
- Personal energy snacks for long walking or summit days
- Small personal first-aid and blister-care kit
- Light shoes or sandals for accommodation and rest

TAF Travel provides or arranges

- Local guide, accommodation and meals stated in the selected trekking itinerary
- Tents, cookware, cook and support team for the mountain camping section
- Mule luggage support up to the limit stated in the confirmed Kaçkar program

Rent or confirm with the team

- Whether this itinerary includes camping, and whether a sleeping bag or mat is supplied

TAF Travel contact

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