

4 Nights - Almaty with Altyn Amel Sand Dunes

HIGHLIGHTS

Shymbulak with cable car/ Kok Tobe with cable car/ Big Almaty Lake/ City tour / Shopping tour / Altyn Emel National Park/ Private transportation / English speaking guides / daily meals / Visa

Day 01	WELCOME TO ALMATY
15:50 Hrs	Welcome to Almaty!! After clearing custom & immigration procedures followed by baggage collection, you will be met by our English speaking office staff in the arrivals hall.
16:50 Hrs	Our team will escort the group to their vehicle. Proceed to your hotel. Upon arrival at the hotel group will check-in to their respective rooms.
20:00 Hrs	Enjoy dinner at Indian restaurant.

Day 02	FUN IN SHMBULAK SHOPPING TOUR
07:00 – 10:00 Hrs	Breakfast at the hotel.
10:00 Hrs	VISIT TO SHYMBULAK SKI RESORT Proceed on an excursion to the beautiful mountain resort of Shymbulak Ski resort including Gondola tickets to level 3 and services of our English speaking guide.
	"Shymbulak Ski Resort" is located in the beautiful Zailiyskiy Alatau mountain at 2260 m above sea level. It is 25 Km from the city centre of Almaty city and has an average temperature of +25C in the summer & -7C in the winter months. The average snowfall is

around 1.5M. It is usually very sunny as the average number of sunny days a year can reach 90%. Ski season is normally begins in December and can run into April.

The ski slopes are served by Gondola cars from "Medeu" to the base of Shymbulak, 2260 m above sea level. This Gondola is the world's third-longest Gondola with a length of 4.5 KM. The Gondola has 114 comfortable cabins for all guests of the resort and has the capacity of 2,000 people per hour. The Ski resort has six lifts that service the mountains. Two combination lifts (Combi1 & Combi2) that have both quad-chairs and 8 passenger cabins, two quad-chair lifts. The lift system will take you to Talgar pass where you are 3180 m above sea level. A vertical rise of 920 m. The majestic mountain view with snowy slopes and evergreen Tien Shan are spectacular and must be seen.

Located in the resort is a hotel, restaurants, café and coffee shop with a variety of cuisine to suit all taste.

Time at leisure.

14:00 Hrs Lunch at Indian restaurant.

15:00 Hrs **Shopping Tour**

> Almaty is great for shopping. Your tour guide will take you to visit various modern shopping malls around the city. Some of the well known malls are Mega Mall, Dostyk Plaza, Villa boutiques.

Return to the hotel for relaxation & free time. Later

20:00 Hrs Dinner at Indian restaurant.

Day 03	BIG ALMATY LAKE	CITY TOUR	KOK TOBE TOUR
07:00 - 10:00 Hrs	Breakfast at the hotel.		

0/:00 – 10:00 Hrs

10:00 Hrs **VISIT TO BIG ALMATY LAKE**

> Lake located at an altitude of 2500 meters above sea level. The inhabitants call it Zhasylkol which means "Green Lake" in Kazakh language. You will spend a few hours enjoying the pristine natural beauty of the glaciers, the harsh peaks and pine forests. On the return back to the city, the group will make a quick halt to visit The First President Park. The total area of the park is 73 hectares. The main idea of the creation the park is a combination of the unique natural landscape of Almaty and scientific achievements of the twentieth century.

14:00 Hrs Lunch at Indian restaurant.

15:00 Hrs PANFILOV PARK & ZENKOV CATHEDRAL

> Its Almaty's most popular strolling and picnic places for people of all ages. The Park is named and dedicated to the Panfilov Heroes who were 28 soliders of an Almaty Infantry. Their memories are etched at the fearsome war memorial east of the Zenkov Cathedral which depict soliders from all 15 soviet republics on the map of USSR. The Park is lush green area and it's a good place to sit, rest, relax and see the bustling sights of the city.

> 'ZenkovCathedral', is one of the most beautiful, magnificent and architectural monument of the city of Almaty with the height of 56 meters and is located in the green Panfilov Park of Almaty. A. Zenkov had supervised the construction of this cathedral in the early 19th century and legend goes that it was built without a single nail. But unfortunately, it's not true. Although the design is remarkably unique but it's because of the advanced

	technological expertise of that time. They used the construction concept of Semi ruche which meant using of reinforced concrete, timber preservation and ventilation.
17:00 Hrs	VISIT TO KOK TOBE HILL Kok Tobe is the highest point in the city of Almaty standing on a 1100 m hill at the southeast edge of the city. It is worth a visit to KokTobe because of its panoramic view of the city from all directions. To reach the KokTobe hill, one should take a cable car ride which starts near Hotel Kazakhstan and goes over some of the oldest parts of Almaty and the magnificent fruit growing gardens. Once you reach the KokTobe hill, you would see the famous 372 m high TV Tower which is visible from far and offers great views of the mountains and the city plus many attractions at the top including many restaurants serving cuisines from across the globe.
20:00 Hrs	Dinner at Indian restaurant.

Day 04	ALTYN EMEL SAND DUNES
07:00 – 10:00 Hrs	Breakfast at the hotel.
10:00 Hrs	The Singing Dune of Altyn Emel National Park!! From the top of the dune, formed by the wind blowing sand from the shoals of the Ili River, you can enjoy beautiful views of the surrounding area. The dune doesn't roam the plain. Despite the fragility of sand and strong winds, it remains in place for several thousand years. The cause of the sound is sand grains friction as it moves. The more moving mass of sand is, the more expressive sound you can hear – from a weak squeak to organ music and even rumble. Only dry sand mass emits sound. Since ancient times, this place caused a lot of folk superstitions. The legends explained the sound by the activities of the desert spirits, imaginary animals, the bells of buried towns, underground rivers, etc.
14:00 Hrs	Packed lunch.
20:00 Hrs	Dinner at Indian restaurant.

Day 05	RETURN HOME
04:30 – 05:00 Hrs	Packed breakfast to go.
05:00 Hrs	It's time to say good-bye to this beautiful city. Our driver will pick you up from the hotel and transfer you to the airport for your flight home or to an onward destination