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**Topic:** Kyrgyzstan

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## Kyrgyzstan

"Kyrgyz" is believed to have been derived from the Turkic word for "forty", about the forty clans of Manas, a legendary hero who united forty regional clans against the Uyghurs. Literally, Kyrgyz means *We are forty*. "-stan" is a word in the Persian language meaning "place of" or "country".



Before going to another pages, watch this video to get some motivation:

<https://youtu.be/4T7xdlVNu18>

## Flag

The 40-ray sun on the flag of Kyrgyzstan is a reference to those same forty tribes and the graphical element in the sun's center depicts the wooden crown, called tunduk, of a yurt - a portable dwelling traditionally used by nomads in the steppes of Central Asia.



## Emblem



The emblem was in a circular in which the conventional language of symbols expresses the mentality, nature, culture and management of the Kyrgyz people.

## Location



Located in eastern Central Asia in the heart of the Tien Shan mountains and bordered by Kazakhstan to the north, China to the east, Tajikistan to the south, and Uzbekistan the west.



The formal name of Kyrgyzstan is the Kyrgyz Republic. It has also sometimes called Kirghizia. Stretching 900 kilometers (560 miles) from east to west and 410 kilometers from north to south.

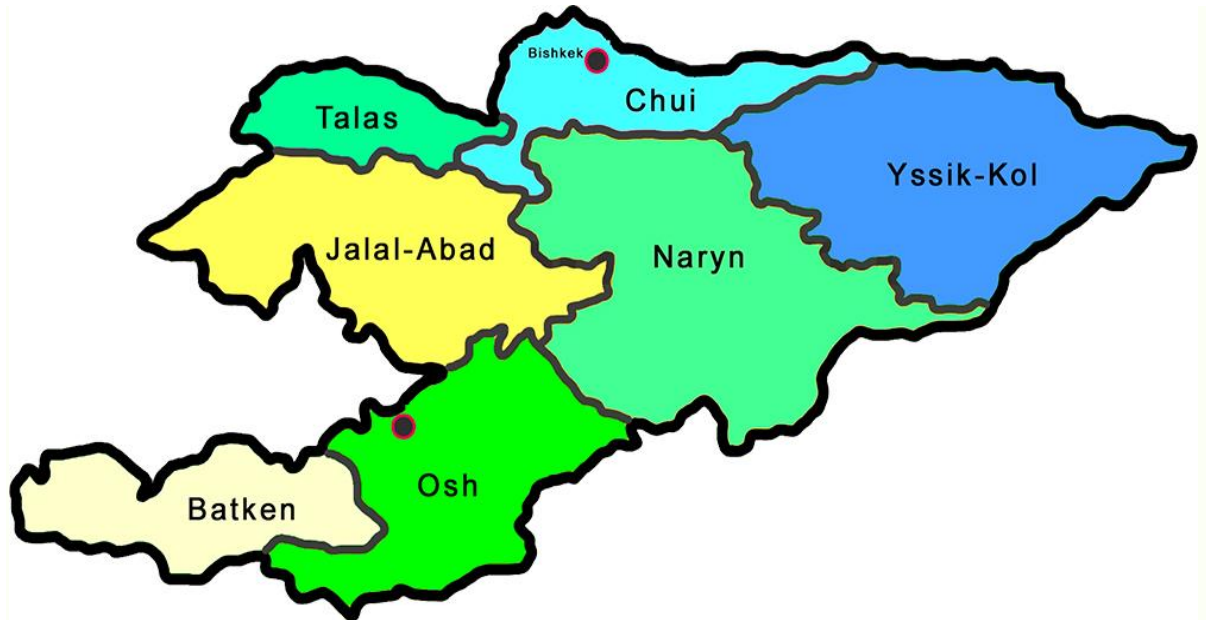
Kyrgyzstan is 93 percent mountainous and mostly lies on land situated at elevations between 1,000 meters and 7,400 meters. More than 40

percent of the country is above 3,000 meters and three quarters of that is under permanent snow or glaciers, with 600 glaciers, covering 6,578 square kilometers.



About 6.3 percent of the country is good for agriculture. Most of this land is in the mountain valleys, the Fergana Valley, plains around Bishkek and Lake Issyk-Kul and irrigated areas near the major rivers and lakes. About 4.25 percent of the country is covered by forest, 4.4 percent by lakes and water reservoirs and 4 percent by glacier.

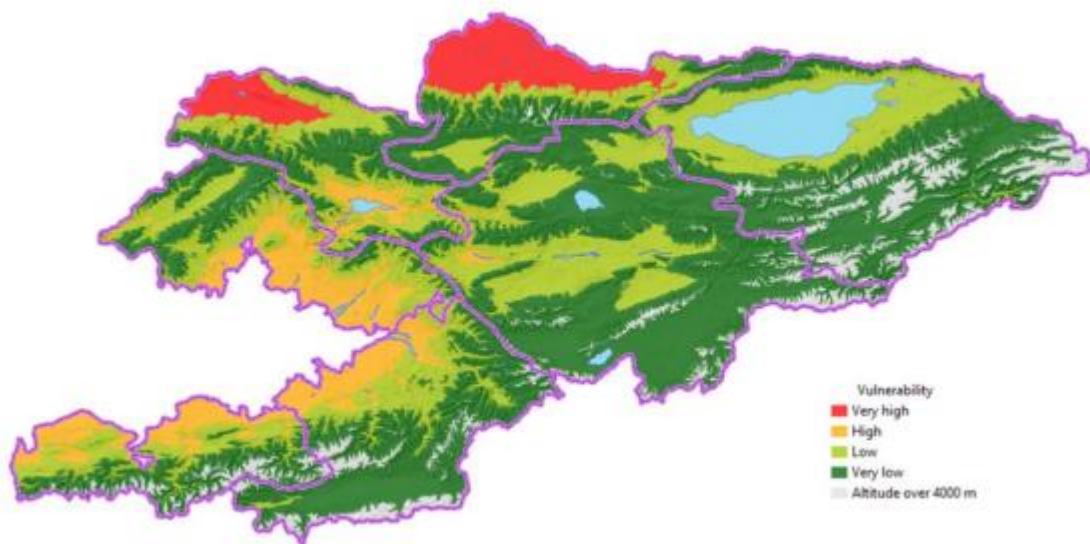
## Administrative division/Population



Name	Population	Area
1)Batken	548,247	17,048 km <sup>2</sup>
2)Osh	1,391,649	28,934 km <sup>2</sup>
3)Zhalal-Abad	1,260,617	32,418 km <sup>2</sup>
4)Naryn	292,140	45,200 km <sup>2</sup>
5)Talas	270,994	13,406 km <sup>2</sup>
6)Ysyk-Kol	501,933	42,909 km <sup>2</sup>
7)Chuy	1,874,620	19,895 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,140,200</b>	<b>199,900 km<sup>2</sup></b>

## Climate

Kyrgyzstan's great distance from the oceans and the sharp change of elevation from adjacent plains strongly influence the country's climate. Deserts and plains surround Kyrgyzstan on the north, west, and southeast, making the contrast with the climate and landscape of its mountainous interior all the more striking. The lower parts of its fringing ranges lie in belts of high temperature and receive hot, drying winds from the deserts beyond. The amount of precipitation the country's westward- and northward-facing slopes receive increases with their height.



The valleys have hot dry summers, with a mean July temperature of 82 °F (28 °C). In January the average temperature is −0.5 °F (−18 °C). Annual precipitation varies from 7 inches (180 mm) in the eastern Tien Shan to 30 to 40 inches (760 to 1,000 mm) in the Kyrgyz and Fergana ranges. In the most populous valleys, rainfall ranges from 4 to 20 inches (100 to 500 mm) a year.

## Language

А а	Б б	В в	Г г	Д д	Е е	Ё ё	Ж ж
а	бе	ве	ге	де	е	ё	же
a	b	v	g	d	e/ye	yo	j
[ɑ]	[b/w/v]	[v]	[g/ɣ/ɑ]	[d]	[je/e]	[jo]	[d͡ʒ/ʒ]
З з	И и	Й й	К к	Л л	М м	Н н	Ң ң
зе	и	ий	ка	эл	эм	эн	ың
z	i	y	k/q	l	m	n	ñ
[z]	[i]	[j]	[k/q/ɣ]	[l/ɬ]	[m]	[n]	[ŋ/ɳ]
О о	Ө ө	П п	Р р	С с	Т т	У у	Ү ү
о	ө	пе	эр	эс	те	у	ү
o	ö	p	r	s	t	u	ü
[o]	[ø]	[p]	[r]	[s]	[t]	[u]	[y]
Ф ф	Х х	Ц ц	Ч ч	Ш ш	Щ щ	Ъ ъ	Ы ы
эф	ха	це	че	ша	ща	ажыратуу	ы
f	h	c	ç	ʃ	ʃç/shch	белгиси	ı/y
[f]	[χ/k]	[t͡sʰ]	[t͡ʃ]	[ʃ]	[ʃ͡ʃ/ʃː]	”	[ɯ]
Ь ь	Э э	Ю ю	Я я				
ичкертүү	э	ю	я				
белгиси	e	yu/ju	ya/ja				
’	[e]	[ju/jy]	[ja/jɑ]				
<b>Long vowels</b>							
аа	ээ	ии	оо	өө	уу	үү	
aa	ee	ii	oo	öö	uu	üü	
[ɑː]	[eː]	[iː]	[oː]	[øː]	[uː]	[yː]	

Native language is Kyrgyz.

Kyrgyzstan is a member of Soviet republics in Central Asia to have Russian as an official language.



## Education



The school system in Kyrgyzstan includes primary (grades 1 to 4, secondary (grades 5 to 9) and high (grades 10 to 11) divisions within one school.

Children are usually accepted to primary schools at the age of 6 or 7. It is required that every child finishes 9 grades of school and receives a certificate of completion.





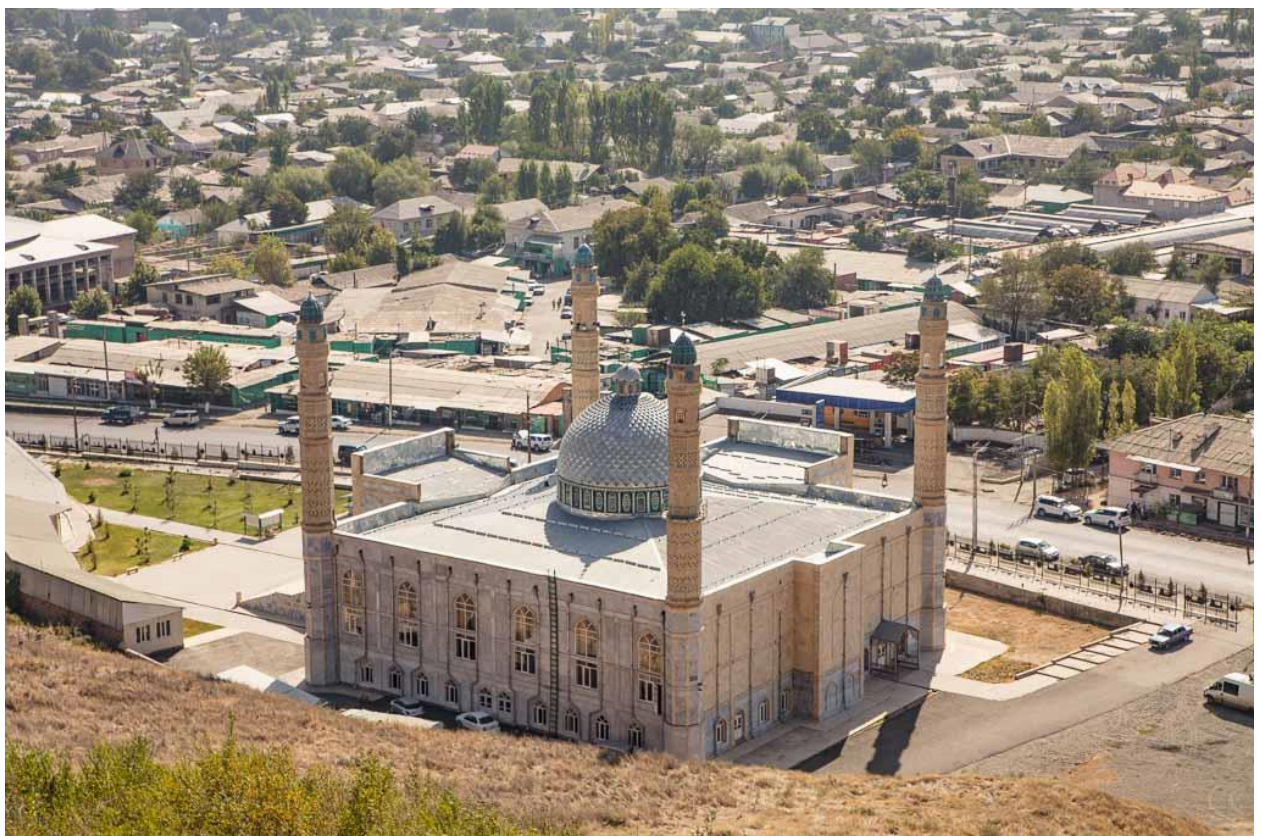
There are 77 public schools in Bishkek (capital city) and more than 200 in the rest of the country. There are 55 higher educational institutions and universities in Kyrgyzstan, out of which 37 are state institutions.



## Religion

Islam is the dominant religion of Kyrgyzstan, 90% of the population is Muslim with the majority being Sunni.

7% are Christian and the remainder are other religions.





## Currency

Som is the currency of Kyrgyzstan.

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Home to glaciers, deserts, alpine meadows and several 7,000 metre plus mountains, Kyrgyzstan is a country full of untouched pristine nature. But Kyrgyzstan offers much more than amazing landscapes to the seeking traveller. Its people, ordinary people with proud nomadic traditions and a great sense of hospitality brings this extraordinary landscape to life. Here at Wild Frontiers, we have highlighted the best places to visit in Kyrgyzstan, maximise your time in the country, so let's jump into it.

## 1) Ala Archa Gorge



This grand, rugged but very accessible gorge is situated about an hour's drive south of Bishkek. Now converted into a national park, it offers scores of walking and trekking possibilities, including hikes to glaciers and for serious mountaineers, climbs to some of the region's highest peaks.

In the Kyrgyz language, Ala-Archa means bright juniper and it grows in abundance over the mountain slopes. The Alamedin River, flowing along the gorge is beautiful but treacherous. Ala-Archa national park is a favourite place with the citizens of Bishkek, who like to relax by a waterfall and enjoy a picnic in the summer. Experienced hikers can climb up to the stunning Ak Say Canyon and Ak Say Glacier.

## 2) Burana Tower



The Burana Tower is one of the few notable historical buildings in Kyrgyzstan. Built by the Karakhanids, it and the surrounding ruins are all that remains of the ancient city of Balasagun. The tower used to be higher (45 meters) but at some point partially collapsed (it has since been partially restored). The rest of the city is practically buried.



### 3) Lake Issyk Kul



Lake Issyk Kul meaning "warm lake" is the second largest mountain lake in the world. Measuring 182km long by 58km wide, the lake is heated from below by thermal activity and never freezes even in the depths of winter.

In the summer the water temperature reaches 25-28 degrees centigrade (warmer than the air) and you can swim in the clear blue waters enclosed on all sides by the snowy peaks of the Tien Shan Mountains. Most of the resorts are on the north shore of the lake and the area between here and Almaty in Kazakhstan is excellent trekking territory.

### 4) Tash Rabat

Sheltering in the lee of a black granite cliff, in what must surely be one of the prettiest valleys in the country, this ancient Silk Road caravanserai, constructed of dark stone with a huge arched entrance, domed roof and corner turrets, appears like some ancient eastern castle, a mythical outpost from some long-forgotten legend.

Before it, sweeping out of sight behind a sheer ridge is a wide green valley, dotted with yurts and hundreds of animals: horses, cattle, yaks and sheep. With a friendly family to stay with in cozy, well-equipped yurts, wonderful walks and rides in the mountains passes, a visit to Tash Rabat is one of the highlights of any trip to Kyrgyzstan.





## 5) Skazka canyon



The Skazka Canyon is nicknamed “**Fairytale Canyon**” because of its irregular rock formations that resemble animals, fantastical characters and castles. Not only the shapes in this canyon are remarkable, but also the colors of the rocks are very unique.

You’ll find yourself in a world of red, pink, orange and yellow and it almost feels like you’re walking in a very colorful painting!

## 6) Jeti oguz



**Jety Oguz** is yet another example of how Kyrgyzstan looks so much like the Western American landscape. Meaning “seven bulls” in Kyrgyz, Jety Oguz is a collection of blood-red rocks at the base of the Ala-Too Mountains. Their prominent shape, height, and absolutely brilliant color, which is wonderfully juxtaposed against the green hills, make them unforgettable.

## 7) Arslanbob

Arslanbob is most well-known for hosting **the largest walnut forest in the world**. This forest is a great source of pride for the natives and it is a pretty big part of





their life. In the autumn, almost everyone runs away into the forest to pick walnuts and during this time there are lots of harvest celebrations. If you want to experience a real festival in Kyrgyzstan, this is one of the best places to do it.

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