

ASIAN MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS, LLC
Trophy Marco Polo and Ibex Hunting in Kyrgyzstan

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2004/2005 Price List and Information

MARCO POLO

Hunt Dates: Fall – October and November; Spring – March
Duration: 10 or 14 hunting days plus travel and flying
Price: 10 day – starting at \$20,000 for Marco Polo Only (depends on area)
14 day – starting at \$22,000 for Marco Polo Only
Additional Species: Ibex – Add \$500 to base hunt plus \$2,000 harvest fee/animal
Wolf – call for details
Additional Guide: US/Canadian Guide plus local guide: \$3,500 additional charge for 1 hunter/guide or \$2,000/hunter if 2 hunters/guide for 10 day hunt. For 14 day hunt, \$4,000 or \$2,250 respectively.
Refunds: If Marco Polo Ram is not harvested, wounded or missed, then \$8,000 will be refunded or credited to a future hunt.
Group Discounts: \$500/person for group of 2; \$750/person for 3; \$1,000/person for 4

MID-ASIAN IBEX

Hunt Dates: Fall – September, October, November; Spring – March
Duration: 7-10 days plus travel and flying
Price: 7 day – starting at \$5,000 for 1 Ibex (depends on area)
7 day - starting at \$7,000 for 2 Ibex
Additional Species: Ibex - \$2,500 harvest fee for additional Ibex
Wolf – Call for details
Additional Guide: US/Canadian Guide plus local guide (same cost as Marco Polo)
Refunds: No refunds on Ibex only hunts
Group Discounts: \$250/person for group of 2; \$375/person for 3; \$500/person for 4

Included Costs

Travel and permit arrangements	Gun Import Permit
All licenses and tags	Area Fees & Taxes
Interpreter & local doctor in camp	US or Canadian Agent in camp
Local Guide and assistant per hunter	Camp cook(s) and meals
Pickup and transportation from Bishkek Airport	Lodging & meals while in Bishkek
Trophy skinning and preparation	Transportation - Jeeps and horses
Permits – Russian and Kyrg CITES & Vet Cert.	Cabin or tent accommodations
Trophy shipping arrangements	Satellite Phone communication

Additional Costs & Hunt Options

Non-hunter in camp	\$ 2,000
Roundtrip Commercial Flight from US to Kyrgyzstan	1,200-1,700
Receiving, inspecting and shipping trophies from NY, USA	250-500
Excess baggage fee for bringing heads/horns back to US	150-400
1 - 3 nights lodging in Bishkek, Moscow and/or Istanbul	100-400
Emergency Medical Insurance or Med Jet (recommended)	150
Kyrgyzstan Visa in NY	50-100
Russian or Turkish Visa	50
US CITES/Import Permit – USFWS	25
Tips and Gratuities	\$500-1,000
Emergency or fun money for trip	
Helicopter - \$900/hour	
Extended or special trips: Per request	

***Note:** Prices and additional costs are subject to change. Costs listed are the current, actual costs or the average cost depending on number of trophies shipped, number of people/group and the US destination for flying and shipping. All prices in US Dollars.

Deposits

A \$12,000 (10 day) or \$13,000 (14 day) deposit is required for the Marco Polo hunts and \$3,500 for the Ibex hunts. If there is a Group Discount, it will be taken off the deposit amount. Once a deposit is received, we'll help you apply for the US CITES import permit. If the hunt is cancelled, and we have adequate time, as determined by us to resell the hunt, we will refund the deposit less 25%. If hunt cannot be rebooked, deposit is non-refundable, but it can be transferred to another party. If you are unable to get a US CITES Permit, then deposit will be rolled over to the next year at the same price, unless government charges increase. Exceptions may be made in an emergency.

Harvest Fees

Harvest/trophy fees for animals must be paid prior to the beginning of the hunt. No personal checks will be accepted, only US Cash (\$100 bills). If you are uncomfortable in bringing this much money with you, we can arrange to have the money send via Western Union. If a Marco Polo is not harvested, wounded or missed, your harvest fee money will be refunded or credited towards a future hunt.

Arrival & Departure

We will help you arrange the commercial flight to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, your final flying destination, before heading out in the vehicles for camp. Total flight time is generally 15-18 hours. Your departing flight from the US will likely be JFK, New York or Los Angeles, CA. The next leg of the trip will be a 9-11 hour flight to Istanbul, Turkey or Moscow, Russia. You'll be met by an English speaking Interpreter at the Airport and he or she will assist you before you get back on the plane for the final flight to Bishkek. There are only 2 flights/week from Istanbul to Bishkek (Turkish Air). They depart from Istanbul to Bishkek on Tuesday and Friday and leave Bishkek for Istanbul on Wednesday and Saturday. There are daily flights from Moscow to Bishkek (Aeroflot). You'll go through a 10-hour time change from the East Coast to Kyrgyzstan. On your return flight, you'll leave Bishkek early in the morning. When you enter the US, you'll go through Customs and will check your trophies with USFWS before heading to your final destination.

Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyzstan is a small (76,000 square miles or 1/2 size of Montana), mountainous (93% of the landscape is mountainous and the highest peak is over 24,000 feet) and a relatively poor & underdeveloped country. Its population is under 5 million and the Capitol City is Bishkek (around ½ million people). The country is very scenic. Neighbors are China (east), Tajikistan (south), Uzbekistan (west) & Kazakhstan (north). Muslim is the most common religion here and the people look Russian, Asian & Mongolian. This is not an Arabic country and terrorism does not seem to be a problem here. Most people speak Russian or Kyrgyz.

Travel

You'll travel several hundred miles to the hunting area via automobile (highways) and late-90's models, Russian 4x4 Jeeps (backroads). Depending on the camp location, it takes 12-16 hours. If the weather is good, the trip can be done in one day. If the snow is heavy, it can take 1½ days. Depending on when you arrive in Bishkek and how you feel, you'll leave for camp mid-morning, the day you arrive or early the next morning. During the trip to the base camps, there are 1-3 military/governmental checkpoints we travel through. The military people are generally quite friendly and have even help with their track machine if the road conditions need work. Bribery money has not been necessary and you won't have to travel into another country during the trip. Helicopters are available, but unless the entire group wants to use them, it is cost prohibitive.

Accommodations

In Bishkek, hunters stay at a modern, English speaking Hotel or a "private compound" at the beginning and/or end of the hunt. It is a safe and secure area and has a shower, bathroom, beds, kitchen, furniture and storage for the local outfitter's vehicles and equipment. The hunting area has well equipped base camp(s), each complete with a permanent lodge, tents, outhouse, generator, furniture, stock corrals and trophy care facilities. Spike camps, when used, will consist of a lightweight tent or small hut. The food is basic: meats, rice & pasta dishes, salami, bread, nuts, vegetables, fruit, soups, etc. but is quite good and filling. If you like special snack foods like candy bars and jerky, we recommend that you bring some with you, as they are not always available there. Bottled water is generally available, but if you are worried about drinking water, bring a water filter or Iodine tablets. Tea is served with every meal, so if you prefer coffee, you'll need to let us know. Sodas, fruit juice, beer & vodka are also provided.

The Hunt

We work with local outfitters who provide local guides, assistants, cooks, vehicles, horses, camps, food, lodging and interpreter (one per camp). They acquire the local licenses/tags/permits for the hunters and are politically well connected. There will generally be one English Speaking, American or Canadian Manager/Guide in the Hunting Camp to make sure your needs and questions are being met. If you choose, you can have one these experienced guides (all have been involved in more than 15 successful sheep hunts) accompany you in addition to the local guides during your hunt. This service we are providing is unique for this type of hunt. Most other operations just set up the hunt with the local outfitters, but don't actually accompany you and almost never help guide you on an Asian hunt. We are not booking hunts in multiple countries, just in Kyrgyzstan and maybe Tajikistan in the future, and only for the hunts we'll be personally involved with. This is especially helpful if you wish to harvest a very large animal and want help with the trophy judging process as most of the guides do not speak English.

Elevations here are moderate compared to most Asian Mountain hunting. Base camps are around 10,000 feet and the hunting takes place from camp elevation up to 13,000'. Most people do not get altitude sickness here, but if they wish, a medication, called Diamox, can be taken to alleviate most

symptoms. Coming in good physical condition will help also. On the first day or two of your hunt, we try and take it easy so that you can rest up and adapt to sleeping and hiking at these higher elevations and conditions. There is sometimes a local “doctor” in camp to monitor your condition and health. Effects of this elevation include: shortness of breath, elevated pulse and blood pressure, headaches and a tired feeling. After a few days, most people adjust to the altitude and see noticeable performance improvements.

These people are exceptional horsemen and in most cases, can get the hunter right to the animal. Vehicles are used on some of the hunts, but because of the terrain, horses and walking will get one to the larger animals. Most of the time, especially when it is cold, we’ll come back to the base camps at night. Spiking out is an option for the more ambitious. Spot and stalk hunting is the preferred method of hunting as it allows us to judge the animals with spotting scopes before making the final stalk. You will see many animals, especially Ibex. On a typical day, hunters will see several hundred animals of both species and sexes. Game densities are high.

Trophy Quality

Kyrgyzstan is capable of producing exceptional Marco Polo and Ibex. Marco Polo in the low to mid-60” class and Ibex in the low to mid-50” class have been taken. The average Marco Polo will be in the low-50’s and the Ibex in the mid-40’s. Some of the Marco Rams will have bases in excess of 16” with most being in the 14-15” class. This variety of Ibex (Mid-Altai) is the largest in the world and Kyrgyzstan is one of the best places to find excellent quality. Tajikistan may be known to produce a slightly larger Marco Ram, but Kyrgyzstan produces the better Ibex and the elevations we hunt are several thousand feet lower on average. If you come in good shape and can hunt hard everyday, the chance at large Marco Polo and Ibex is very good. We want to encourage people to harvest at least an 8 year old Marco and/or a 9 year old Ibex. To encourage the locals to manage for older and larger animals, the guide and local outfitter may receive a bonus for harvesting older and/or larger animals. It is in their best interest to get you an exceptional animal.

Trophy Care & Shipping

Trophy care on your hunt includes caping, fleshing and salting of all hides and the boiling of all skulls/horns in the field. All shipping and crating is at the hunter’s expense. You’ll need to bring a large duffel (Cabela’s big, 48” long nylon/canvas type or a Hockey Bag), one or two pillow cases or meat/cape bags, roll of duct tape and 2 heavy duty garbage/compost bags for transporting your horns and capes home on your return flight. Turkish Air or Aeroflot, the airlines flying out of Bishkek, will charge you an excessive and overweight baggage fee for your duffel. Upon arriving at the US Airport (likely JFK, New York), you’ll be met by a receiving/shipping agent and USFWS Inspector. After the inspection, the receiving/shipping agent will ship your trophy to an USDA Certified Taxidermist or Tannery of your choice. We will help arrange this for you.

Gear List/Itinerary/Additional Information

A detailed information packet will be mailed to you upon booking a hunt. It will contain an equipment list, suggested fitness plan, travel tips, assistance with airline flights & hotel reservations, permit information, emergency phone numbers and extensive information regarding all aspects of your trip.

Communication

We utilize the latest in technology: Iridium or Globalstar Mobile Satellite Phones.

References

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