

Kyrgyzstan

Information for applicants

Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyzstan borders Kazakhstan in the north, Uzbekistan in the west, Tajikistan in the south and China in the east. The country's surface area totals some 199,900 km², which is roughly equivalent to the combined land mass of Austria, Switzerland and Bavaria. Kyrgyzstan has a population of 6 million, more than one million of whom live in the capital city of Bishkek. Other major cities include Osh, Jalal-Abad, Karakol, Cholpon Ata and Talas.

Climate and sights

Kyrgyzstan has a very continental climate which means it has dry hot summers and cold winters. In the south of the country, temperatures reach up to 45°C in summer, and in winter they can fall below -18°C. On average, there are more than 2,700 hours of sunshine and in the sunniest regions up to 3,000 h. That is double the German average and 1,000 hours above the German annual record.

Kyrgyzstan has some stunning scenery, like the Tien Shan Mountains, for example, with their glaciers and over 7,000-metre-high peaks and beautiful lakes, such as Issyk Kul ('Warm Lake', as it does not freeze in winter) and Song Kul, which is situated at an altitude of 3,100 metres. The high mountains are home to snow leopards, lynxes and Marco Polo sheep while the south has more than 630,000 hectares of wild walnut forests. Kyrgyzstan is located on the Great Silk Road, the old trade route between China and the Mediterranean Region. Situated in the south is the ancient city of Osh with its busy sprawling bazaar, which was once one of the trading posts along the Silk Road.

Medical care

Today medical services have mostly been privatised. General medical treatment can be sought safely on site. More complicated cases however should be referred to Germany for further diagnosis and treatment and, in emergencies, patients should be evacuated.

Accommodation and quality of life

There are many different types of houses and apartments to choose from in Bishkek. As a rule, housing is sought/found with the help of a real estate agent. Small ads are published, for example, in the 'Vecherniy Bishkek' newspaper. The country office can help you get in touch with a real estate agent. Other offers are available through the property renting agencies 'Salut' (www.salut.kg) and 'Garant' (www.garant.org.kg) or in the travel agency 'Kyrgyz Concept' (www.concept.kg).

Bishkek has countless restaurants, cafés and bars that serve international cuisine. There are also many kinds of leisure activities, from cultural events to sport and outdoor pursuits, including golf, yoga and wellness activities. Kyrgyzstan's ecotourism, hiking and skiing sectors are experiencing strong growth. Trekking and skiing regions are located close to urban areas. Bishkek can be reached several times a day from many European cities via Istanbul and Moscow.

Shopping and services

The supply situation in Kyrgyzstan is good and stable. Fresh bread, cheese, fruit and vegetables can be bought from small roadside vendors. The products on the oriental markets are often home grown and comparatively cheap. Meat and hygiene articles should be purchased in one of the many supermarkets.

Imported products are also available in Bishkek. Bishkek's supermarkets are open all day, also on weekends.

Accompanying partners and children

In principle, accompanying partners in Kyrgyzstan should have no trouble seeking and finding work.

Schools and childcare: There are some international schools and pre-schools:

<http://www.esca.kg/?en>

<https://www.qsi.org/kyrgyzstan/kgz/>

<http://sris.edu.kg/>

Find out more

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/kirgisi-stan-node>

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/356.html>

Published by:
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices in
Bonn and Eschborn

Street address:
Post code, town/city, country
T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15
E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de

Eschborn 2017

Responsible/editor etc.:
Ulrich Heise, Eschborn

URL links:
The providers of linked external websites are always responsible for their own content. GIZ explicitly disassociates itself from all such content.

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.