

Hunting Marco Polo Argali in Tajikistan

Tajikistan is a landlocked country in central Asia with 90% of its surface covered by mountains the most famous mountain range is the Pamir Mountains that stretch across Tajikistan and into neighbouring China. Tajikistan is most famous for its population of Marco Polo Argali but it also has some exceptional mid Asian Ibex as well. Our hunting area is situated near Lake Kara-kul at elevations of around 4,500 metres.



Hunting

Hunting is mainly done from specially modified vehicles you will drive around until spotting groups of rams and once you have spotted a suitable trophy ram you will complete the stalk on foot. Due to the altitude some hunters may feel the effects and will have trouble climbing but after a few days you will acclimatise and will not feel the effects of altitude too much. You need to be proficient at shooting long range, 400 – 500 metres is not uncommon however sheep can be encountered at 200 – 300 metres.

Seasons

Hunting season is from September 1st to mid December and some hunting is done during February and March depending on weather conditions. Best dates are during October and November.



Weather

Usually the weather is stable and predictable during October and November however at this altitude you can encounter snow at any time of year. Day time temps are from 0 – 10 degrees Celsius and in the evening from -10 to -15 degrees Celsius.

Accommodation

Accommodation is provided in permanent in the hunting camp they are clean and comfortable and there is full time cook preparing meals which features lots of game meat which is of excellent quality. There is also a traditional Russian sauna for bathing. Whilst hunting you will have a packed lunch consisting of bread, cheese, salami, dried fruit and nuts.



Getting there

The best way to travel into Tajikistan is via the city of Osh in neighbouring Kyrgyzstan. Arrival point will be Bishkek after transiting through Istanbul with Turkish airlines. It's a 7 or 8 hour drive from Osh to the base camp.

Price

All inclusive including one trophy ram (best available) US\$33,000

This price is for one hunter only in the group. We can provide substantial discounts for two and three or more hunters per group. We also have special prices for those wanting an exceptional argali in excess of 60".



Price includes

One trophy ram

Guiding service

Food and accommodation during the hunt

CITES permit

VETS certificate and export documents

Rifle hire

Hunting licence

Transportation to and from Osh airport and hunting camp

Interpreter



Not included

Airline tickets

Accommodation and meals before and after the hunt

VIP service in airports (Bishkek and Osh)

Visas

Rifle permits (if bringing own rifle) US\$500

Trophy shipment if necessary

Tips

Insurance and personal items



Summary

For those wanting to take the biggest Marco polo argali (*Ovis ammon polii*). In the world then Tajikistan is the number one destination. Average size of trophies is from 55" – 56" and skins are at a premium during October/November's hunting season.