

Mount Ararat, Turkey

Summit Mount Ararat - 5,137 metres



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Summit Mount Ararat, 5,137m

An incredible trekking adventure

Agri Dag or Mount Ararat as it is also known, is the highest mountain in Turkey, standing at a mighty 5,137m in the far northeast of the country in the Armenian Highland. Ararat consists of two major volcanic cones: Greater Ararat and Little Ararat.

Many believe it is the spot where Noah's Ark came to rest after the Great Flood, and numerous expeditions have been mounted in recent years to try and find evidence of it. The mountain has a permanent glacier cap and is in fact a dormant volcano which last erupted in 1840.

An adventurous and stunning 5,000m mountain summit.



Detailed itinerary

Day 1: Departure for Turkey

We depart London on our flight to Turkey. We will be met at the airport by our guides and transferred to our hotel for dinner.

Day 2: Mount Ararat Base Camp

Altitude gain: 600m

Approx. 5-6 hours trekking

We transfer to Çevirme Village (with altitude of 2,200m) next to Mount Ararat. At this point, our muleteers will handle our equipment and transfer it to the camp using mules. This is also where our hike will begin. After a comfortable hike of about 5-6 hours, we'll arrive at Base Camp at 2,800m.



Day 3: Acclimatisation Day

Altitude gain/loss: 700m

Approx. 6-7hrs trekking

After breakfast we'll begin our hike to Camp 2 at 3,500m. Even though it's a much harder stage compared to yesterday, we'll arrive to Camp 2 in about 4-5 hours. Here we'll rest for a while and have some acclimatisation walks around the area. After this, we'll start our descent back to Base Camp at 2,800m.

Day 4: Base Camp to Second Camp

Altitude gain: 700m

Approx. 4-5hrs trekking

After breakfast, we'll start our climb again to Camp 2 at 3,500m. Camp 2 is a small site set in a dramatic location, set on a rocky ridge with great views down into the surrounding valleys and upwards to the summit icefields. We will spend the afternoon resting, carrying out our equipment check, and prepare our bags for the summit climb early tomorrow morning.

Day 5: Summit Day

Altitude gain/loss: 1,637m/2,517m

Approx. 10-12 hours trekking

After a night of rest, our summit climb will start around 1am. We will reach the summit in about 6-7 hours. After resting for half an hour at the summit, we'll head back down to Camp 2 where we will rest for about an hour before continuing our descent to Base Camp at 2,800m, where we'll spend our last night on the mountain.

NB: There is an 'emergency' extra day if weather conditions make the summit attempt impossible.



Detailed itinerary

Day 6: Descent to Çevirme Village

Altitude loss: 600m

Approx. 3-4hrs trekking

After breakfast we'll start our descent to Çevirme Village where our vehicles will meet us to be transferred to our hotel in Doğubeyazıt. After a well-earned shower we will have a special dinner in to celebrate our achievements. Overnight in hotel.

Day 7: Ishak Pasha Palace tour*

We will have time to head into the city centre to enjoy some sightseeing, including Ishak Pasha Palace, Ahmed-i Hani tomb, Urartian Castle and Meteor Crater located just next to the border with Iran. Overnight hotel.

* Please note this day will be cut if we need an additional day on the mountain.

Day 8: Depart Turkey

We leave this wonderful country with plenty of fond memories on our flight via Istanbul to London.



Challenge grade

Tough

Experience

Previous trekking experience at high altitude would be recommended with a current good level of fitness. Some of the days are long with rough, rocky trekking at high altitude and with often very cold weather. There is snow and icefield conditions which may require crampons.

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This itinerary is complex and subject to change