



EasternTurkeyTours

Twin Peaks Trekking Suphan & Ararat



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TWIN PEAKS CHALLENGE

The Eastern Turkey region encompasses a spectacular area of volcanic mountains which include the mountains around Lake Van (Artos, Nemrut Crater, Suphan), Tendürek Mountain and the sister peaks of Ararat and Little Ararat. The Twin Peaks Challenge covers an ascent of Mt Suphan followed by Ararat. At 4058 metres above sea level Suphan, Turkey's third highest peak offers an excellent preparation climb for Mt Ararat which is 5137 metres above sea level.

MT SUPHAN:

Mt. Suphan is a dormant stratovolcano and is located on the northern shore of Lake Van commanding spectacular views of the entire lake region including Artos to the south and Nemrut to the south west. The principle routes to the summit are on the south eastern lakeside flanks of the mountain. Starting point for the trek to the summit is our campsite just above the village of Harmantepe. The trek to the summit begins early, at about 2 am for an 8 or 9 o'clock arrival at the summit. This is not a strenuous climb although the last 300 metres is on a steep incline over very loose rock surfaces which can be testing. The summit is an impressive depression with a permanent lake which may be frozen even as late as the end of June or early July. This section of the tour involves just one day camping and once down from the summit we will continue to Dogubeyazit

Altitude sickness is very unlikely but the summit does put you at the altitude where it can occur which is why it is such a good option for preparation when you continue on to Ararat.

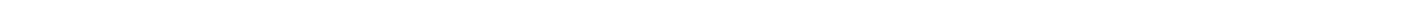
From Harmantepe the road takes us down to Adilcevaz on the shore of Lake Van and we continue east along the shore until we branch north to Muradiye with a brief stop at the falls. From Muradiye we continue north skirting the Iranian border and crossing the edge of Tendürek Mountain. Tendürek, at 1800 metres above sea level is a shield volcano which last erupted with gas and ash in 1855. While it does not possess an impressive peak the countryside is a mass of hardened volcanic rock producing a moonscape of giant jet black rock plates and massive boulders; it is especially impressive in the winter.



MT. ARARAT:

Mt Ararat is a classic stratovolcano; it is not a part of a mountain range but stands alone with its partner Little Ararat. Ararat, at 5137m has a permanent covering of ice at the summit; it is a majestic sight that dominates the skylines of Turkey and the adjacent territories of Armenia, Nakhichevan (Azerbaijan) and Iran. Apart from its cultural and religious significance as the traditional resting place of Noah's Ark after the flood, Ararat is, quite simply, a beautiful sight. A permit is required to climb Ararat and this will be secured by us and its costs are included in the cost of the expedition. However, this will take a couple of weeks to process but all we require is a photocopy of the ID pages of your passport.

Our mountain guides are not only fully licensed by Türkiye Dağcılık Federasyonu (Turkish Mountaineering/Alpine Federation) but are all highly experienced local men who have spent their lives on and around Mt Ararat.





Tour Summary

- Day 1 – Arrive Van. Overnight Van
- Day 2 – Depart for Suphan base camp at Harmantepe
- Day 3 – Early morning ascent to the summit of Mt. Suphan. Descend and afternoon departure for Dogubeyazit via the Muradiye Falls and Tendürek Volcano.
- Day 4 – Day at leisure in Dogubeyazit
- Day 5 – Morning departure for the Trek's start point and trek to Camp 1 at 3200 metres.
- Day 6 – Acclimatisation, return to camp 1
- Day 7 – Trek to Camp 2
- Day 8 – Early morning ascent to summit of Mount Ararat and return to Camp 2
- Day 9 – Return to start point for collection. Lunch and overnight in Dogubeyazit or transfer to Van with overnight in Van.
- Day 10 – Depart for onward journey

What's Included:

- All accommodation (Hotel B&B, while on mountain full board)
- All guides (fully qualified)
- Road transport (including airport transfers)
- Full portorage
- Tents (2 sharing) and sleeping mats (sleeping bags if required)
- Crampons
- All museum and site entries
- Permits

Not included.

- Personal expenses such as alcoholic beverages, telephone calls, snacks, laundry, tips etc.
 - Flights, unless specified within the tour description or agreed with us when booking.
 - Insurance: we must see proper insurance papers for appropriate policies prior to the start of the trek
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