

Mountaineering:  
Fann Mountains (Tajikistan)

## Mountaineering in the Fann: Peaks Chimtarga (5,489 m), Energia (5,105 m) and Zamok (5,070 m)



*Tajikistan sits at the junction of five of the world's greatest mountain ranges: the Himalaya, Karakorum, Hindu Kush, Tien Shan and Pamir. The Fann Mountains are part of the huge spur jutting westward from the Pamir. Here alpine mountains tower above forested valleys, ringed by chains of pristine lakes. Several peaks above 5,000 m offer a challenge to adventurous mountaineers.*

The Fann and Hissor ranges are ideal trekking territory and there are many trekking and climbing peaks which can be attempted as a trip in themselves, or as part of a longer trekking tour. Chimtarga (5,489m) is the highest peak in the Fann and there are both technical and non-technical routes to the top. If you wish to attempt more than one peak, we recommend combining Chimtarga with Energia and/or Zamok, which can all be accessed from the same base camp.

### Suggested itinerary

This is a suggested itinerary for a 14-day trip starting from Dushanbe, which includes a few days' trekking to acclimatise before starting the climbing. If you would like to do a shorter or longer trip, please contact us for a tailor-made itinerary.

Day	Itinerary
Day 1	Arrive at Dushanbe Airport (early AM). Transfer to guest house. Breakfast, shower, rest. After lunch, orientation to Tajikistan and some time to explore Dushanbe.
Day 2	Drive through Varzob Gorge and over Anzob Pass (3,373m) to Iskandarkul (Lake Alexander). After lunch, take a short walk to a nearby waterfall. Evening meal by the lake and accommodation in Iskandarkul base camp.
Days 3-5	Acclimatise by trekking over Kaznok Pass (4,400m, 1B) to Mutnoe Lakes and Alouddin base camp.
Days 6-12	Make ascent on Chimtarga and Energia (and/or Zamok), return to base camp.
Day 13	Drive from Alouddin base back to Dushanbe. Arrive early afternoon.
Day 14	Depart from Dushanbe.

### Base Camp

Alouddin base camp is usually used for ascents on Chimtarga, Energia and Zamok. Alouddin base is on the east side of the Fann Mountains, and is accessible by road. It is within one day's drive from Dushanbe, Penjikent or Khujand. Alternatively, it is possible to trek to the base camp from Penjikent, Dushanbe or Iskandarkul ("Lake Alexander"). Allow 3-7 days for these treks depending on the route chosen.

Alouddin base camp provides the following facilities:

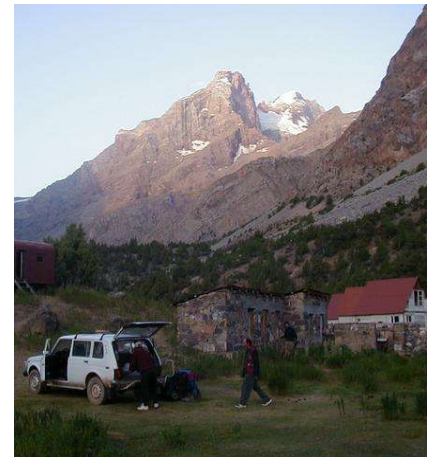
- accommodation in chalets (or pitch your own tent)
- dining room, WC, shower
- electricity (220 V, 50 Hz)

### Grade

The difficulty of climbing the tallest peaks in the Fann Mountains is shown in the following table (UIAA system<sup>1</sup>). The grade indicates the most difficult spot that occurs on a route.

Mountain	Altitude	Grade (UIAA)
Chimtarga	5,489 m	2-6
Energia	5,105 m	2-5
Zamok	5,070 m	2-6
Poleteknik	4,400 m	1-4

Mountain	Altitude	Grade (UIAA)
Ganza Bolshoi	5,306 m	2
Odamtash	4,579 m	2-6
Bodhana	5,138 m	5
Chapdara	5,049 m	5



<sup>1</sup> A brief summary of UIAA grades is as follows:

Grade 1 – Easy, but no longer just trekking territory. It is necessary to use your hands to keep balance.

Grade 2 – Intermediate. It is now essential to use your hands for movement. People with less practice should be belayed.

Grades 3 and above – Difficult, i.e. Requires technical climbing skills and the use of rope.

## Season

The season for climbing in the Fann Mountains is July-September. For climbing earlier or later in the season (May-October), we recommend the Hissor range, accessible from Dushanbe. In the Hissor range there are a number of trekking and climbing peaks of varying difficulty in the altitude range 3,650m-4,855m.

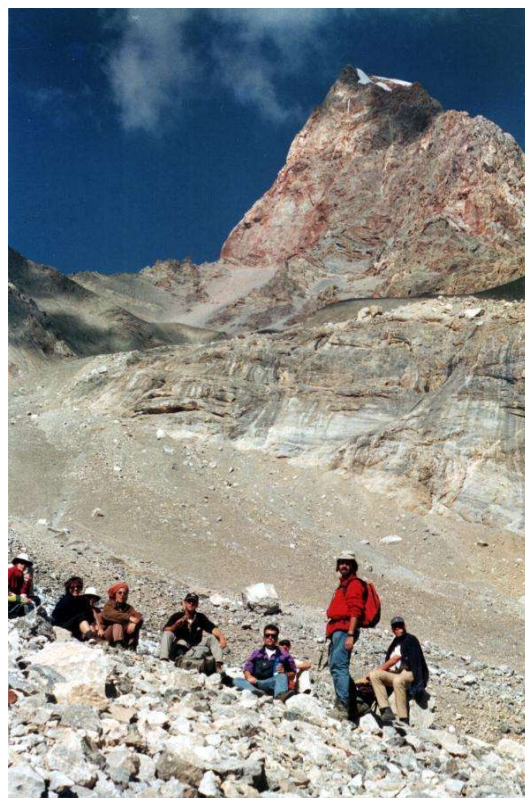
## Price Quotation

All of our tours are tailor made, so we will calculate a price for you based on your requirements. There are a number of factors which we will use to determine the final price:

- The exact itinerary and options that you select (See below for a list of the services that we usually include in our quotation).
- Type of vehicle (Western 4WD with aircon, or a more basic Russian 4WD).
- Seating arrangement (3 passengers per car or 4 passengers per car).
- Accommodation options (best available or most economical).
- Timing of trip. We can offer a discounted rate at the beginning or end of the season (May or October).

Normally we include the following services in our quotation:

- All documentation and paper work (visa support, registration with OVIR, trekking license, ecological tax). For groups of two or more people we can arrange a group visa for Tajikistan to be collected at the border. Individual travellers must obtain their visa in advance at an embassy or at Dushanbe airport if arriving in Tajikistan by air.
- Vehicles and drivers.
- English-speaking guide/interpreter. Please enquire for languages other than English.
- Porterage: donkeys or porters.
- Full board (including a dedicated cook if required) – except in large cities with a good choice of restaurants, where we usually provide breakfast only.
- Accommodation as specified in the itinerary.



## Contact details

To request a quotation or discuss your requirements, please contact:

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