

Catskiing in Bakhmaro, Georgia

We have been running our catski operation in Bakhmaro since 2016. We discovered Bakhmaro, scouted the terrain and developed the network of cat tracks. For our own groups we will rent new accommodation in 2022/23. A cozy living room, independent heat sources for a pleasant temperature in the house and a high level of functionality for freeriders have priority.

Bakhmaro is our deep powder location.



Itinerary

- **Saturday:** pick up at the airport Kutaisi & transfer to Bakhmaro
[Situationally, it could be necessary to do an overnight stay near the airport.]
- **Sunday:** safety meeting catskiing in the mountains around Bakhmaro.
- **Monday-Friday:** catskiing in the mountains around Bakhmaro.
- **Saturday:** transfer to the airport Kutaisi after breakfast.

Alternative arrival and departure days can be agreed - but the same room or the same house cannot be promised for additional nights, since the rooms are always assigned from Saturday to Saturday. Also the program always starts on Saturdays.

Services included

- Pick up at Kutaisi (KUT) airport and **transfer** to Bakhmaro and back.
- 7 nights in a **basic mountain lodge**. (Situationally, up to 2 of the 7 nights near the airport).
- **Breakfast, packed lunch** and **Georgian dinner** in Bakhmaro.
- 5-6 days catskiing.
- Certified mountain guides freeride-oriented and English-speaking; IFMGA Head Guide.
- English speaking contact persons with local knowledge.
- Safety back-up with a back-up snowcat, rescue team & equipment, lots of experience.

The group size is limited to a maximum of 12 participants.

Dates

- Dezember 2022 till March 2023

In December and March we have had very good experiences with the snow situation in recent years.

Prize: from 2'300,-€ per person (peak season 2'500,-€)



Requirements

- safe freeriding in alpine terrain.
- safe technique in all snow conditions.
- Experience in backcountry behaviour and avalanche safety
- Fitness for short ascents.
- Patience (for alpine conditions, weather and the situation in a transition country like Georgia).

Please keep in mind that there must always be a reserve for a safe expedition. We move here in undeveloped terrain. External support is virtually impossible. We are on our own. Experience shows that in particular weaker participants suffer injuries more often than average.

Accommodation & Food

There are a growing number of good houses for rent in Bakhmaro, but unfortunately they are not equipped for the winter. Since many things will change before the summer, we will only moor a house in the fall and prepare it for the winter ourselves. Bunk beds are possible, shared bathrooms quite safe. There should also be a sauna.

Our local team of chefs and kitchen helpers prepare the food freshly every day. In the morning there is a rich breakfast, for lunch we take a lunch box with us and in the evening we cook typical Georgian food. Georgian cuisine is hearty and versatile. The meals are served in bowls and on plates, so that everyone can take what they like. That way we are also able to cover various special diets (vegetarian, gluten-free, lactose).



Guiding & Team

The groups are led by experienced local guides. In recent years we have been able to build up a pool of young, freeride-oriented mountain guides who speak good English. Since autumn 2021, the Georgian Mountain Guide Association has been part of the world association IFMGA.

Our guiding concept is based on understanding experienced freeriders as partners on the mountain. In addition to the self-evident safety, we want to ride good lines and strengthen the experience in the group.

Our local Snowcat driver was trained by us and Austrian professionals. The drivers have known the terrain since they were children. We offer regular training and English classes for the whole team to keep improving quality and safety standards each season.