

Catskiing in Bakhmaro, Georgia

With the PIONEERS, our team runs a guest house that was built right from the start for winter use and international freeriders. The newly built guest house is almost hotel standard and has 10 double, twin or triple rooms with private bathrooms. Central heating provides heat and hot water. The location above the river offers great views of Bakhmaro and the surrounding mountains. Attached to the guest house is a public café.

The PIONEERS is our most comfortable accommodation.



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 double, twin or triple room at PIONEERS in Bakhmaro. (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

- December 2022 till March 2023

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

Prize: from 2'500,-€ per person (peak season 2'800,-€)

The PIONEERS

Bakhmaro



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

The PIONEERS has 10 rooms that are designed as double, twin or triple rooms. It is also possible to book a single room for a surcharge. All rooms have a private bathroom and balcony. Sauna and relaxation room are in the basement. A fireplace creates a cozy atmosphere in the living room.

Our local team of chefs and kitchen helps 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. We also 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.

The PIONEERS

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.

Baldern