

Pakshif (2430m) - Camp Pakshif River (2980m)

Distance: 9km

Ascent: 550m

Descent: 0m

Trail: Easy / moderate - clear trail

Accommodation

Camping

The trail up from Pakshif – an old car road that has faded into a trail – is quite easy. The only concern here is water, as the most reliable source of clear water is the stream crossing at 2970 meters. The water is iron-rich, and may taste strange even after filtering. You should fill up on water in Pakshif. Ask around where to find a stand pipe with clear water. If you don't speak Tajik or Russian, waving an empty water bottle is universally understood in Tajikistan.

The main river in the Pakshif Gorge won't be clear until the fall, and other smaller side streams can be either silty or dried up. All stream crossings are safe and easy.

The camp location at 2980 meters is not precise. That location is a large sloping grass field. Search the area for the best spot to pitch your tent. This area is also popular with cattle that roam free without a shepherd, so be careful when you leave your tent unattended as a curious cow or calf may trample it. Until mid-summer the bottom of the gorge may have large flocks of sheep (along with their guardian dogs).