Archamaidan Valley (1840m) - Foot of Dukdon Pass (2980m)

Distance:17km

Ascent: 1250m

Descent: 110m

Trail: moderate – mostly clear trails

Camping

The camp spot on the foot of the Dukdon Pass is a great one. Grassy meadow, clean water coming straight from a spring just above the camp and amazing views over the Dukdon Range. It's also a good strategic spot for tackling the pass, about 800 metres of vertical ascent.

Today's trek to the foot of the Dukdon Pass is not too hard and very scenic. You follow the Archamaidan River pretty much all the way, crossing it a few times. You can see big glaciers tumbling down the Dukdon Range. There are some summer settlements higher up in the valley and you may be invited for a cup of tea and a bowl of yoghurt. There is one potentially big river crossing, across the Sarykhodan River. You might need to hike a few hundred metres upstream to find a safe way to cross.