

Mt Elbrus Flight Arrangements 2011

Thank you for booking with Adventure Alternative for your expedition to climb Mount Elbrus. Our team on the ground are looking forward to welcoming you to Russia and guiding you up this magnificent peak.

This document deals with the flight arrangements necessary for you to get to our start point for the expedition, Mineralnye Vody (airport code: MRV).

Book your flight to Moscow Domodedovo airport (code DME) as an international leg, and book the internal leg separately, unless it is possible to fly all the way with Aeroflot (not currently available, but may become so).

The internal leg is from DME to MRV (Moscow to Mineralnye Vody); this needs to obviously tie in with your arrival and departure details from home to Moscow. So your schedule will be as follows:

- 1) Home – Moscow DME international flight (eg BMI, Aeroflot)
- 2) Moscow DME to Mineralnye Vody (MRV)
- 3) Elbrus
- 4) Mineralnye Vody to Moscow and back home

Your bags will need to be collected in Moscow and checked in again for the internal flight. Therefore it is important to allow a decent amount of time between flights. If any of your flights are delayed, then you will have to rely on the good grace of the airline staff to help you.

Due to the distances involved from Mineralnye Vody to Terskol (our base for climbing Mt Elbrus) it is important that people arrive into MRV at a similar time. There are two flight options available which are with UT Air and KV Air:

KV Airlines	Depart DME 1030	Arrive MRV 1220
	Depart MRV 2030	Arrive DME 2225

UT Airlines	Depart DME 1200	Arrive MRV 1410
	Depart MRV 1700	Arrive DME 1920

You can take either flight into Mineralnye Vody, but everybody will have to wait until the whole team has arrived because the minibuss journey to the Baksan Valley is 4 hours.

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What do I need to do?

- 1) Book a return flight from DME to MRV and back to DME
- 2) Book a return flight from your local airport to DME and back which works well with your internal flights mentioned above.

How do I book the flights?

KV Airlines can only be booked through an agent. We use STA Travel and have a key account with them. You should contact Chris Sidebottom on 0871 230 8579 or from Ireland 0044 161 830 8759 (on this number you will have to ask to be put through to Chris Sidebottom) or you can email him on Chris.Sidebottom@statravel.co.uk. Chris can also book your flights from home to Moscow.

UT Air can be booked online at <http://utair.de/> when you go to this site you will notice that it is in German. However on the booking section (on the landing page given) you will see a German flag. If you click this it will give you an English option. UT Air can also be booked through Chris Sidebottom as mentioned above.

Home to Moscow flights can be booked online or again through Chris Sidebottom at STA Travel. Many different carriers cover this route but do allow enough time for delays, baggage collection and check in for your flight onward or inbound flight. The process of immigration and baggage collection in Domodedovo can sometimes take 3 hours.

Group flights – If you are climbing Mt Elbrus with us as part of a privately organised group then you should contact Chris Sidebottom at STA Travel. The reason being that airline seats are sold in different pricing categories. Depending on the airline you will find anything from 5 – 15 seats will be a particular price. The next 5 – 15 will be the same seat but a higher priced category. Therefore if your group is split over two pricing categories then Chris can manage this so that everyone pays the same price.

What date do I book the flights for?

Due to the timings of the flights you will probably be best booking a Home to Moscow flight overnight. So your internal flight would be the following day. Below are the dates and flights which you need to book depending on the date you are joining us. If you have booked a private team climb with us please contact us for you specific details:

Team (as per website)	22 nd May	12 th June	3 rd July	24 th July	14 th Aug
Fly Home to Moscow (overnight)	22 nd May	12 th June	3 rd July	24 th July	14 th Aug
Fly Moscow to Mineralnye Vody	23 rd May	13 th June	4 th July	25 th July	15 th Aug
Fly Mineralnye Vody to Moscow	2 nd June	23 rd June	14 th July	4 th Aug	25 th Aug
Fly Moscow to Home	2 nd June	23 rd June	14 th July	4 th Aug	25 th Aug

If you have any questions regarding any of the above do let us know.