

**Part I.**

Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan)

**Part II. U.S. Embassy General Information**

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**Part III. Profile of Religions of Kyrgyzstan**

Country Profile: The Kyrgyz Constitution defines the country as a secular state. By population, the country is: Muslim 82.7%, Russian Orthodox 16%, other 1.3%.

**Part IV. Funeral Directors, Mortician and Related Services Available in Kyrgyzstan**

There are two state morgues in Bishkek under the Morphological Center that is located in the Kyrgyz Medical Academy. One of them is the morgue of the Republican Bureau of Forensic Medical Examination (RBFME); the other is the Republican Pathoanatomical Bureau (RPAB). There is also a morgue under Bishkek City Hospital #4 which receives those only who died in this hospital. Most hospitals in regional centers have also morgues. They all provide ablution/dressing, embalming, cold storage, and other related services. The quality and cost of services varies and it is lower in regions.

**DISCLAIMER:** The U.S. Embassy Bishkek assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following persons or firms. Names are listed alphabetically, and the order in which they appear has no other significance. Professional credentials and areas of expertise are provided directly by the funeral directors, morticians and other service providers.

**Bishkek City Mortuaries and Funeral Agency****Republican Pathoanatomical Bureau**

3 Suyerkulov St.

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Phone: +996 312 425738

Working Hours: 24/7

The Bureau provides services for those only who died in medical institutions.

**Republican Bureau of Forensic Medical Examination**

3 Suyerkulov St.

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Phone: +996 312 560351 or 565338

**Morgue under Bishkek City Hospital #4**

206 Krivonosov St.

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Phone: +996 312 211753

The morgue provides services for those only who died in this hospital.

**“Radamant” Funeral Agency**

43/1 Zhykeev-Pudovkin St.

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Phone: +996 312 576657 or 576566; 176

**Part V. Profile of services available in Kyrgyzstan regarding preparation and shipment of remains:**

The laws governing the disposition of human remains in the Kyrgyz Republic are as follows:

**(a) Maximum Period before Burial:**

Kyrgyz law does not specify any time limit for burial for embalmed remains. Unclaimed remains will be buried in one month.

**(b) Embalming:**

Embalming can be done at a morgue. Embalmmment is required for exportation of remains.

**(c) Cremation:**

There are no facilities for cremation in the Kyrgyz Republic. It is prohibited since traditionally, Muslim and Orthodox traditions are followed.

**(d) Caskets and Containers:**

For local burial, coffins can be purchased ready-made in Bishkek. For export the remains are placed in a zinc casket, which is hermetically sealed and enclosed in a hardwood coffin. Suitable wooden coffins may be purchased from “Radamant” Funeral Agency. “Radamant” will also help in obtaining necessary documents from local authorities and preparing legalized translation, customs clearance. The casket with human remains must be sealed in the presence of local officials (customs or militia officials).

**(e) Export of Human Remains:**

The following documents are required by Kyrgyz authorities for exportation of human remains:

- Notarized copy of the local death certificate issued by ZAGS or official medical death certificate endorsed by doctor. Original and notarized translation should be submitted to the Consular Section for issuance of the consular report of death.
- Copy of the deceased person's passport
- Mortuary certificate issued by the Consular Section
- Consular report of death issued by the Consular Section
- Embalming Certificate
- Act ("spravka") issued by the company sealing the zinc casket certifying that the casket only contains the remains
- Authorization from the Sanitation and Epidemiological Station for transportation and burial of the remains
- Customs Declaration

**Exportation of Human Cremains/Ashes**

There is no cremation in Kyrgyzstan.

**(f) Costs:**

Charges shown are based on the exchange rate as of May 2018: \$1.00 = 68.2 KGS

- Local burial in Bishkek (fees include access to the cemetery, hearse, coffin, wreath/flowers, works at grave, funeral home charges, etc.):
 

With Luxury Option	246 300 KGS
With Middle Option	99 210 KGS
With Simple Wood	85 940 KGS
- Cold storage - 670 KGS/day
- Embalming - from 8 000 KGS
- "Radamant" Funeral Agency fee for export of human remains (including cost of zinc container, casket, documents' legalization/translation (death certificate, etc) and delivery to the airport) - from 81 840 KGS
- Transportation costs of human remains from various cities to Bishkek - 32 som/1 km (quotes are provided by "Radamant" Company):
 

Osh (630 kms from Bishkek)	- 40 320 KGS
Jalal-Abad (576 kms from Bishkek)	- 36 900 KGS
Talas (299 kms from Bishkek)	- 19 200 KGS
Naryn (348 kms from Bishkek)	- 22 300 KGS

Karakol (392 kms from Bishkek)

- 25 100 KGS

**(g) Shipment:**

Average weight of casket and containers required for exports of remains is 200 kilos. International shipping from Bishkek to the United States is possible by Turkish Airlines and Aeroflot. Cost of transportation depends on final destination and flights availability and may vary from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

*Local Office Airline Information:*

*Turkish Airlines*

136 Abdrakhmanov St.

Bishkek 720040

Phone: +996 312 979 598 –Call center

Office Phone: +996 312 301600

+996 312 301700

*Aeroflot*

64/1 Erkindik Blvd.

Bishkek 720040

Phone: +996 312 620071

+996 312 620072

**(8) Exhumation**

Exhumation is available but it is a very rare practice in Kyrgyzstan.

The mortuary requires the following documents for exhumation:

- Death Certificate
- Formal request from the next-of-kin (NOK)
- Authorization for exhumation from the Sanitation-Epidemic Station
- Authorization for exhumation from the city Prosecutor's Office
- Authorization for exhumation from the Agency of Ritual Services

According to "Radamant" Company, the cost of exhumation is around \$500.

**(9) Local Customs Regarding Funerals, Disposition of Remains, Mourning, Memorial Services.**

All foreigners who die in Kyrgyzstan are subject to autopsy which is performed by a forensic expert at a morgue. The forensic expert issues the medical death certificate stating the cause of death. The actual local death certificate is obtained at ZAGS, City Office of Civil Records, on submission of medical death certificate and the passport of deceased. The local Death Certificate is issued to the next-of-kin. ZAGS does not issue a death certificate for American Citizens who

died in Kyrgyzstan but have no next-of-kin in the country. In these cases, the body can be repatriated with the official medical death certificate.

For local citizens, any case of non-natural death is reported to the police and they are subject to autopsy that is performed by the Republican Bureau of Forensic Medical Examination. The Bureau issues the medical death certificate stating the cause of death. In case of medical or natural death, the medical death certificate is issued by a physician. The actual death certificate is issued by ZAGS to the next-of-kin on submission of medical death certificate and the passport.

In Kyrgyzstan a burial in a grave is the most common way of disposition of remains. As a rule a funeral procedure includes a wake, a burial, and memorial dinner according to the local religious traditions.