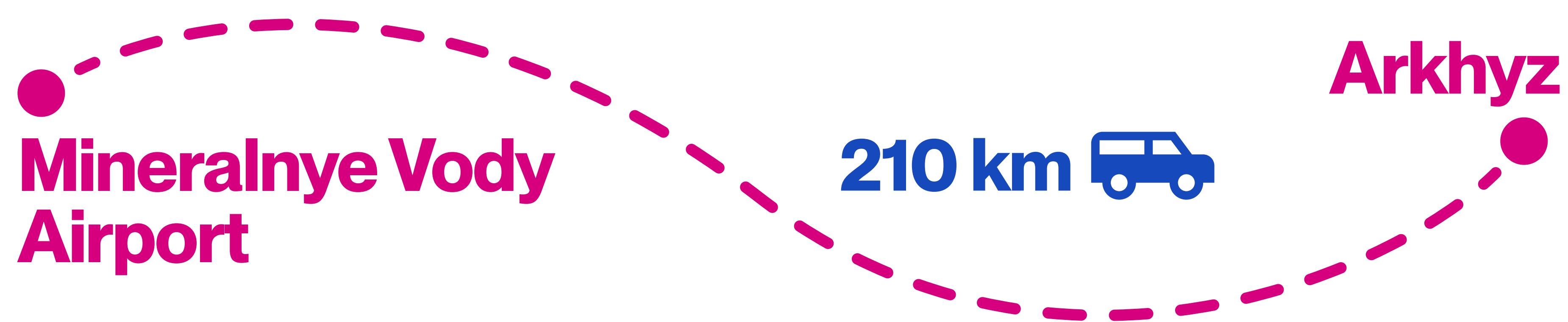


TOP-17

What to do?

Welcome to Arkhyz



*You can get here by bus, car, or taxi

- Enjoy the view at the Gumbashi Pass
- Admire the stunning lakes: Sophia, "Semitsvetnoye", and Dukka Lakes
- Collect a photo series of waterfalls: Sophia, Baritovy, and Kazachiy waterfalls
- Take a tour of the Special Astrophysical Observatory of the Russian Academy of Sciences
- Go up the mountain by cable car
- Breathe in the mountain air scented with fir, pine, and birch forests
- Wander through the Alan Settlement (Nizhniy Arkhyz) open-air museum
- Discover the Face of Christ – the "Image of the Savior Not Made by Hands" on a cliff in Nizhniy Arkhyz
- Ride bikes, motorcycles, or quad bikes through the mountains
- Go hiking in scenic spots and have a picnic
- Climb a mountain peak
- Take photos with Karachay horses or buffaloes
- Shop for souvenirs at the Taulu Meadow
- Test yourself with rafting on the Bolshoy Zelenchuk River
- Relax in a traditional Russian wood-fired sauna (banya)
- Swim in thermal pools at "Dolina Geyzerov" or "Zhemchuzhina Kavkaza"
- Go skiing or snowboarding at the mountain resort in winter



What to bring back?

- National clothing: a "papakha" (wool hat) or a "burka" (felt cloak)
- Warm products made from natural wool
- Jam made from local berries
- Jewelry made of rock crystal
- Mountain honey and tea



What to taste?

- Khychiny: thin flatbreads with a variety of fillings
- Karachay lamb dishes, such as "shulyum" – a traditional mountain lamb soup
- Mountain trout
- Pine cone jam
- Beech nuts (local "chinariki")

