

cross two smaller streams and canals, and traverse a low ridge before entering the Artysh valley, which contains numerous villages aggregating perhaps 2,000 houses.

2. Kalti Ailák (height 3,950 feet), 22 miles.—Good road over level plain.
3. Kyr Bulak (height 5,340 feet), 33 miles.—Good road passes over plain and then through a range of low hills up the Sogon stream, on which is a military outpost, then crosses a low pass and emerges into a large plain. Camping ground is occasionally used by Kirghiz.
4. Jai Tupa (height 4,910 feet), 20 miles.—An occasional camping ground of Kirghiz; water scarce; situated near the centre of an extensive forest of stunted poplar trees; good road passing over level plain; plenty of grass and fuel.
5. Ui Bulák (height 6,650 feet), 27 miles.—Road good but stony; crosses a low spur into the Ui Bulák valley, where plenty of fire-wood and a moderate amount of grass; water scarce, but plenty of snow.
6. Tigarek, 17 miles.—Road up stream and then over a spur from the main range, stony, but otherwise not difficult. Tigarek is in a large grassy plain (no water) surrounded by hills; is sometimes used by Kirghiz as a winter pasture ground, when snow is used as a substitute for water.
7. Belowti Pass (height 11,360 feet), 9 miles.—Road crosses some low spurs and then passes up a ravine; a steady ascent of four miles followed by a sharp pull of two miles up to the pass; no high peaks near the crest, but undulating grassy ridges. The road descends on the north side of the pass in the valley of the Kokshál river. The Belowti Pass was the furthest point reached by Captain Trotter, and from it the marches to Ush Turfan were said to be as follows:—
8. Ak-chi, 10 miles, on Kokshal River.
9. Kuyok Tokai, 22 miles, down river.
10. Safr Bai.
11. Karawal, 22 miles.
12. Ush Turfan, 16 miles.

Total distance, Kashghar to Uch Turfan, 242 miles; from Safr Bai (No. 10) a road is said to go to Karakul (near the old Issigh-Kul Fort) by four difficult marches, crossing the Bedul and the Zanku passes, and the head-waters of the Naryn River. From Karakul roads go to Kuldja and to Vernoye (Almati).

ROUTE VIII.

YANGI HISSAR TO KILA PANJAH, WAKHAN, BY THE LITTLE PAMIR (CAPTAIN BIDDULPH) MARCH AND APRIL 1874.

1. Ighizyar (height 5,600 feet), 19 miles.—Large village. Road nearly due south, through sand-hills and cultivation, crossing two small streams, over soda plain for 5 miles, cross stream by village, and over stony plain for 7 miles; practicable for wheeled traffic.
2. Aktala (height 7,345 feet), 17 miles.—Kirghiz camp, south-west four miles over plain to Aktala valley, then up valley 13 miles. At six miles pass through ruined Chinese fort closing the valley. Fuel, grass, and water abundant; road good.
3. Sasak Taka (height 9,455 feet), 13 miles. Out of main valley, into side valley to south, first few miles narrow and stony, then opens out and travelling improves. Wood and grass abundant. Kirghiz camp at Sasak Taka.
4. Kaskasu (height 10,960 feet), 14 miles.—Kirghiz camp up valley; travelling good; grass plentiful, but fuel scarce. Several Kirghiz camps in the valley.
5. Chehil Gumbaz (height 10,310 feet), 8½ miles.—Kirghiz camp; half mile from Kaskasu road turns up small valley to south, and at another mile is foot of Kaskasu Pass, first 200