

Cruise To Olkhon — Detailed description

Trip Length: Group: 10-10 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

This cruise operate aboard two comfort-class cruise vessels, Tatyana and Sibiryak, and takes part of the following itinerary: Listvyanka – Circum-Baikal Railway – Peschanaya bay – Olkhon – Maloye More – Olkhon – Chivyrkuysky Gulf – Maloye More – Peschanaya bay – Circum-Baikal Railway – Listvyanka. In accordance with their point of departure or arrival, they may be preceded or followed by stays on Olkhon Island, in Listvyanka, and other places of Lake Baikal.

This particular cruise is a wonderful option for those travellers who wish to combine land itinerary and travel by water. You will leave Listvyanka, a village on Lake Baikal closest to Irkutsk, to discover the Circum-Baikal Railway that was part of the Trans-Siberian before the hydropower station was constructed in Irkutsk. You will go hiking in the amazing landscape of Peschanaya bay (Sandy bay) that will make you think of the Mediterranean. Sailing northwards, you will approach the rocks of Sagan-Zaba to discover rock paintings and finally reach Olkhon Island from where you may continue your journey.

Extension suggestions:

Before the cruise : old Circum-Baikal railway and Listvyanka village.

After the cruise: Olkhon Island, Ust-Barguzin and the Zabaikalsky National Park, Severobaikalsk.

Highlights

- Discovery of scenic sites of Lake Baikal hardly accessible in summer
- Possibility to integrate the cruise with a land part of journey

Tour type

NATURE

Difficulty

Physical rating not assigned

Comfort

Standard — most of nights in comfortable rooms, some nights in tents or rooms with shared WC.

Program

Day 1 — -

Day 2 — -

Day 3 — -

Day 4 — -

Departures

New departures available soon

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 1122521

ООО «БайкалНейче» 664007, г. Иркутск, ул. Декабрьских событий, 55, офис 405.2

+7 (3952) 26-56-94

ИНН 3811110257 КПП 384901001 ОГРН 1073811003221 Р/с 40702810110000700937 в АО "ТИНЬКОФФ БАНК"
БИК 044525974 Кор. Счет 30101810145250000974

 [baikalnature.com](https://www.baikalnature.com)

 +7 3952 26-56-94

Note

The price is subject to change due to fuel costs. The trip is priced assuming accommodation in 4-berth cabin. Triple cabin supplement is 4000 RUB per person. Twin cabin supplement is 12000 RUB per person.

What's included

Price includes

- English-speaking guide services
- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Meals as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Letter of invitation

Price does not include

- Visa invitation and registration of passports (for foreign citizens, if necessary)
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Optional activities
- Transfers
- Airline tickets

Checklist & Equipment

For summer travel, we recommend preparing:

- comfortable clothes for hot and sunny weather - we advise you to give preference to natural fabrics, be sure to have sun protection (comfortable hat, SPF protection cream, sunglasses);
- protection from rain and wind - a long raincoat with a hood, for active tours - a waterproof cover on a backpack, the second pair of shoes (the ability to dry a second pair if they get wet);
- clothing in case of bad weather - when the temperature drops (in mountainous regions, on the coasts, in the evening), we recommend taking a light jacket, a warm sweater and pants

In different regions of Russia there can be significant temperature fluctuations in the summer. If you do not have experience traveling in similar regions, please contact your manager to pick up the necessary things and find out about the weather forecast in the place where you are planning your trip.

If you are traveling in the spring or autumn, please check with your manager for a list of recommended equipment and an approximate weather forecast.

Recommended checklist

pants, long sleeve jacket/tracksuit
rubber slippers
raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!
sunglasses
towel
wet wipes and antibacterial hand gel
water bottle/flask
spray against mosquitoes and ticks (for summer outdoor tours)
sleeping bag
trekking telescopic poles
winter (down) jacket and warm pants (windproof and waterproof) / winter suit
thermal underwear
comfortable winter boots (suitable for walking on ice and snow)
fleece jacket/sweater with collar
warm mittens (for convenience, thin gloves and a second layer of mittens with fur) / ski gloves
comfortable warm hat and scarf (snood)

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ski mask

winter expedition boots (like Sorel or Baffin)

winter expeditionary down jacket (up to -50°)

moisturizing cream

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Meals

Three meals a day on shipboard, cuisine, based on fresh products and caught fish.

If you are a vegetarian or have any particular preferences, please let us know, so we could adapt the menu.

Visa

You need a tourist visa to travel to Russia. It can be issued for a maximum period of 30 days. Your passport has to be valid for at least six months after the expiry date of your visa and to have at least two blank pages.

BaikalNature offers visa support and has created "BaikalNature letter of invitation" package. If you buy a BaikalNature tour, this package is absolutely free; when you buy any other BaikalNature service, you will have to pay for this package.

For questions regarding obtaining an electronic visa, please contact your tour manager.

Money

The Russian currency is ruble. The cost of travel and other services is always fixed in rubles. Please note that cards from foreign banks do not work in Russia at the moment. Tourists can obtain a bank card from a Russian bank in advance or travel with cash. If you have euros or dollars with you, exchange offices will allow you to change them easily in the cities. It is also worth noting that the exchange rate at airports is usually not the most favorable. It is better to exchange in big cities (you can check the current exchange rate online). Important! Only new banknotes without defects or any traces are accepted for exchange.

Tipping

All persons who compose the BaikalNature travel team (guides, drivers, cooks, etc.) are paid a decent wage for their services and do not expect any tips from you. So you have no obligation to leave anything. If you really want to express your satisfaction by leaving a gratuity, and if it is in foreign currency, be aware that torn or glued coins and banknotes cannot be exchanged. Anyway, thank you for your tips, left at your discretion in envelopes.

Health

You need to get a health examination before a great trip. Consult your doctor. Get a dental checkup. If you have health problems that could worsen during the trip, make sure you have taken all your medications with you.

It is advisable to keep the following vaccines valid:

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- diphtheria,
- tetanus,
- Polio.

Tick-borne encephalitis is present in areas of forest, taiga where ticks are the carriers of encephalitis between May and July. As of August, they are no longer carrying the virus. If you do not get vaccinated, you should follow the basic precautions, including:

- protective clothes
- use of repellents
- daily check of the skin.

It is also possible to take out special insurance covering the analysis of the insect and vaccines.

Provide a first aid kit that includes among other items:

- aspirin or paracetamol,
- anti-diarrheal pills,
- antiseptic,
- adhesive plaster,
- sterile pads.

If you have individual diseases, make sure you have taken your medications.

Emergency Contact

You can contact BaikalNature by phone: +7 924 531 87 01 (What's App, Telegram, Viber)

In addition, your call will be forwarded to your manager, reachable 7/7.

Legal Mentions

Professional Guarantees: BaikalNature LLC (ООО "БайкалНейче"), United Federal Register of Tour Operators number: RTO 009402.

Financial Guarantee: "Gaide insurance company" JSC (АО "Страховая компания Гайде"). Insurance contract N 4875/2422-49 from August 6, 2024. Amount of coverage: 500 000 RUB. Legal and actual address: BaikalNature LLC, 55 Dekabrskikh Sobyti Str., office 204.1 664007 Irkutsk Russia

Travel Insurance

In addition to your personal insurance, you have an opportunity to purchase local insurance. Please, do not hesitate to ask us about our services.

Security

Your safety is very important to us! During the trip we ask you to follow the guide's advice, read the instructions carefully and follow the group. If you have any questions or experience any discomfort, please notify your guide or tour-manager immediately.

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