

New Year's Eve 2023 on lake Baikal — Detailed description

Trip Length: 7 Group: 5-14 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

What's the best time to experience something new and exciting? It's New Year's Eve, of course! It's a magical time when everyone believes in miracles and wishes the best for the year to come. Spend your holidays with BaikalNature on the most beautiful Lake Baikal shores. Your Lake Baikal NYE, will sound like a genuine Siberian fairy tale on the most sacred and purest waters.

Whether you travel with children, with friends or alone, you want to experience active vacations or just spend a great time discovering new landscapes, this trip will really be exciting.

A large number of activities await you! Visit the Taltsy Ethnographic Museum, taste Baikal cuisine, see the Baikal Museum and meet nerpa, the Baikal seal, hike up to Chersky Rock, dog-sled in the Siberian winter forest and celebrate New Year's Eve! Take also some time to rest in a Russian banya and enjoy lakefront bed and breakfast Siberian welcoming atmosphere.

After a loud NYE party on Baikal shore, spend the second day of the year aboard a ship sailing along one of the Lake Baikal most beautiful shores. Visit the former gold seeker settlement, Bolshie Koty Village and the 17th century Bolshoye Goloustnoye Village. Gaze at stunning and unique landscapes: at this time of the year, rocks and capes are already covered in ice as a thin layer of ice already forms along the shores. Crossing the misty waters of the lake, you'll find yourself on sites you can only reach by boat.

You'll spend overnights at a cosy and comfortable resort on Baikal shore, a night in the wooden house of a hospitable family and the best hotel of Listvyanka in its centre.

Highlights

- Celebrate Russian New Year on Lake Baikal
- Discover the warm and generous Siberian soul
- Cross the snow-covered taiga on dog-sledding
- Watch a rare phenomenon when water is steaming
- Go by boat along the most beautiful Baikal shore
- Visit the places inaccessible from the land
- Make the circular itinerary about 250 km

Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

Comfort

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

Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Irkutsk, End of the tour: Irkutsk

Program

Day 1 — First meeting with the lake Baikal

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11:00 — Arrival to the airport of the Irkutsk city

11:30 — Meeting with your driver and guide

12:30 — Dog-sledding

13:40 — Lunch

15:00 — Arrival to Bolshoye Goloustnoye

15:00 — Time at leisure

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation "U Mikhailicha", Bolshoye Goloustnoye, Twin comfortable room

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 2 — Happy New Year!

09:30 — Breakfast at your resort

10:00 — Excursion to the Dry lake

13:30 — Lunch in the cafe

16:00 — Russian banya

17:00 — Free time for preparing to the festive dinner

20:00 — Festive dinner

Overnight at your resort

Hotels: Accommodation "U Mikhailicha", Bolshoye Goloustnoye, Twin comfortable room

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 3 — Belaya mountain

10:00 — Late breakfast

11:00 — Time at leisure

13:00 — Lunch

14:00 — Ascent the Belaya mountain

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight at your resort

Hotels: Accommodation "U Mikhailicha", Bolshoye Goloustnoye, Twin standard room

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 4 — On the board

10:00 — Breakfast

11:00 — Departure to the village

13:00 — Lunch

15:00 — Arrival to the village

18:00 — Russian banya

19:00 — Homemade dinner

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation the guest house Solnechniy, Bed in the twin room

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, dry closet indoors, banya

Day 5 — Along the western coast of the lake Baikal

09:00 — Breakfast

11:00 — Departure by boat to the village Listvyanka

12:00 — Arrival to the village

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14:00 — Lunch in the restaurant

15:00 — Visit of the village Bolshiye Koty

16:00 — Chersky Rock

17:00 — Excursion to the Baikal Museum

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Mayak, Listvyanka, Twin room

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 6 — Road to Irkutsk

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

10:00 — Transfer to Irkutsk

10:40 — Excursion to the museum Taltsy

13:00 — Arrival to Irkutsk

14:00 — Lunch (Not included)

16:00 — Leisure time in Irkutsk

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Angara, Chambre twin confort

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 7 — End of the programme

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

11:00 — Transfer to the airport

Departures

New departures available soon

Note

Guaranteed departure from 4 participants. If there are less participants, the price can be recalculated. The price includes breakfast on Day 2-7; lunch on Day 1-4, 5; dinner on Day 1-4. Single supplement 6 300 RUB (only for nights 5 and 6).

What's included

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Price includes

- Dog sled rental
- English-speaking guide
- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Bathing in springs
- Celebratory dinner with alcoholic beverages
- Ropeway to Chersky Rock
- Letter of invitation
- Visa invitation and registration of passports (for foreign citizens, if necessary)
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Meals according to the program
- Accident insurance

Price does not include

- Meals as per itinerary
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Optional activities
- Beverages
- Airline tickets

Checklist & Equipment

You will need in Russia in winter:

- to protect yourself from the cold weather;
- to protect yourself from the wind;
- to protect your feet from moisture;
- to protect yourself from the sun's reflection from ice and snow.

Allow the system of "three layers":

- The first layer, called "second skin", determines the performance of the other two layers. It will transport sweat to the next layer and dry quickly to avoid cooling after exercise. Therefore forget the cotton retains moisture in the skin and choose underwear in synthetic fabrics.
- The second layer must keep the heat of the body as long as possible. Warm synthetic or mixed (wool or fleece turtleneck sweater) fabrics, that dry quickly, are preferable.
- The third layer should protect you against wind and moisture. Choose a jacket, long enough, 100% waterproof, preferably with hood.

Recommended checklist

comfortable shoes for trekking

fleece balaclava

2
4
5
6
7
11

Meals

At restaurants and homestays in cities, traditional cuisine consists of local specialties.

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

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Laundry

Some hotels and inns offer laundry services for a variable sum of money. It is sometimes possible to use laundry services at homestay (when there is running water) for a fee.

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

No compulsory vaccination.

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.

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.

Medical Form

No particular physical condition is required.

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

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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

Cancellation Options

The cancellation options are:

- more than 40 days before departure - 30 % of the tour price,
- 39 - 10 days before departure - 60 % of the tour price,
- less than 10 days before departure - 100 % of the tour price.


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