

Commander Islands Cruise — Detailed description

Trip Length: 12 Group: 12-14 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

We will visit the new route Komandorsky Nature Reserve - Bering Island and Medny Island (Brazen). Boat trip to the Commander Islands is a unique opportunity to meet with a pristine and virgin nature; it is a 10-days trip of amazement and experience. The Commanders are exotic, unique and mysterious islands. They are like a magnet attracting lovers of unusual journeys. The Islands were discovered by and named after Commander Vitus Bering in 1741. The tomb of Vitus Bering is located on their biggest Island - Bering Island. The Commander Islands is a place of mixing Russian and Aleut cultures. During this cruise we will come out into the Pacific ocean in the catamaran. We will visit two main islands of Commanders, the biggest island - Bering island and the uninhabited island - Medny island (Brazen). We will show you different bays, where you can collect semi-precious stones, rivers, lakes, waterfalls. We will see lots of different marine mammals (sea lions, fur seals, whales, killer whales), their rookeries and birds colonies. We will also fish on salmon, flounders, turbot.

Highlights

- Pristine nature and observation of marine animals
- Getting in touch with Aleut culture
- Visit of the bay with gemstones
- Geographic isolation and uninhabited places
- Cruise in the Pacific Ocean

Tour type

PURENATURE

Difficulty

Moderate - 3-5 hours of physical activity daily

Comfort

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

Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, End of the tour: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky

Program

Day 1 — Acquaintance with Petropavlovsk

10:40 — Arrival to the Petropavlovsk Kamchatsky airport

12:00 — Accommodation in the hotel

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Petropavlovsk", Twin room

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

Day 2 — Pacific Ocean passage

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

10:00 — Excursion to the community of indigenous people

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12:00 — City-tour

15:00 — Transfer to the port and embarkation

19:00 — Dinner on board

Overnight on board

Hotels: Accommodation on the boat Vasilyi Zavoiko, Cabin for 4 persons

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and shower on the floor

Day 3 — Navigation to the Bering islands

09:00 — Breakfast

11:00 — Free time on the board

13:00 — Lunch

15:00 — Continuation of the navigation

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight on board

Hotels: Accommodation on the boat Vasilyi Zavoiko, Cabin for 4 persons

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and shower on the floor

Day 4 — Animal watching

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Arrival to Nikolskoye village

10:30 — Transfer to the North-east cape

12:00 — Lunch (picnic on road)

14:00 — Set up of the tent camp

19:00 — Dinner near the fireplace

Overnight in tents

Hotels: Camping,

Day 5 — Toporkov island

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Excursion to the sea lions' rookeries

12:00 — Lunch (picnic)

13:00 — Return to Nikolskoye village

15:00 — Excursion to the Toporkov island

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel of Nikolskoye village, Twin room

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

Day 6 — Podutesnaya and Poludennaya bay

08:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

09:00 — Transfer to the Podutesnaya bay

12:00 — Lunch (picnic)

14:00 — Trekking to the Poludennaya bay

19:00 — Dinner near fireplace

Overnight in tents

Hotels: Camping,

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Day 7 — Steller's arc and Vodopadnaya river

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Trekking to Steller's arc

13:00 — Lunch (picnic)

14:00 — Excursion to the Vodopadnaya river

19:00 — Dinner near the fireplace

Overnight in tents

Hotels: Camping,

Day 8 — Srannoye lake and history of the archipelago

08:00 — Breakfast

09:00 — Return to the Podutesnaya bay

11:30 — Lunch (picnic)

12:00 — Transfer to Nikolskoye village

14:00 — Excursion to Srannoye lake

15:00 — Excursion to the ethnographic museum

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight on the board

Hotels: Accommodation on the boat Vasily Zavoiko, Cabin for 4 persons

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and shower on the floor

Day 9 — Navigation day

09:00 — Breakfast

11:00 — Free day on board

13:00 — Lunch

15:00 — Free day on board

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight on board

Day 10 — Arrival to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Arrival to the city

15:00 — Free time

Overnight in hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Petropavlovsk", Twin room

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

Day 11 — Free day

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Optional excursions

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Free time

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Petropavlovsk", Twin room

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

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Day 12 — End of the programme

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

11:00 — Transfer to the airport

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
10.08.2018	21.08.2018	175750.00 RUB
21.08.2018	01.09.2018	175750.00 RUB

Note

The itinerary is approximate, the instructors choose the appropriate travel lines during the route according to the group training and weather conditions. It's possible to add the English-speaking guide. Please, contact us for more details.

What's included

Price includes

- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Reserves and national parks entrance permissions
- Transfer from airport / railway station on first day
- Transfer to airport / railway station on last day
- Boat trip
- Luggage transport
- Letter of invitation
- Russian-speaking guide services
- Camping outfit rental
- Meals according to the program

Price does not include

- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Beverages
- Airline tickets
- Sleeping bag rental
- English-speaking guide services

Checklist & Equipment

We recommend you to pack all your stuff in two bags: a small backpack and a large travelling bag.

SMALL BACKPACK: will be useful for carrying your personal belongings during the day (camera, film, personal medication, bottled water, etc.) You will also use it as hand luggage during air travel for all your heavy (to lighten the travel bag in the luggage compartment), fragile (camera, etc.) and necessary (toilet bag, etc.) things.

BIG TRAVEL BAG or BIG BACKPACK: must contain the rest of your stuff. It will be in the luggage compartment during the flight. It will be transported by vehicles.

Recommended checklist

Sunglasses

Raincoat or wind and waterproof shell jacket (with hood !)

Large 60 litres backpack

POLARTEC or similar pullover

Sleeping bag rated from -10° C to +15° C

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Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts

Shorts

T-shirts

Comfortable walking shoes (like Vibram or similar)

Towel

Swimsuit

Important travel documents: Passport and visa, original or electronic airplane tickets (with a sets of photocopies kept separately), bank card

Meals

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 more information please contact your nearest Russian Embassy or Visa Application Center.

Money

The Russian currency is ruble. In all cities and many large villages of Russia, you can easily withdraw rubles, using a Visa or MasterCard, from ATMs, located in banks, department stores or hotel lobbies, some of them are open 24 hours a day. If you have euros or dollars with you, exchange offices will allow you to change them easily in the cities, seldom in the countryside. However, it can be difficult to exchange traveler's checks, even in cities.

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.

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

A good physical condition is required.

Emergency Contact

You can contact BaikalNature by phone: +73952 26 56 94.

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

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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 9302/19-49 from September 30, 2019. Amount of coverage: 500 000 RUB. Legal and actual address: BaikalNature LLC 119A Dekabrskikh Sobyti Str., office 13 664007 Irkutsk Russia

Cancellation Options

The cancellation options are:

- more than 60 days before departure - 10% of the tour price,
- 60 to 30 days before departure - 50% of the tour price,
- less than 30 days before departure - 100% of the tour price.

Security

The travelers' security is our primary aim and also the long-term reputation of our travel agency. First-aid kit, adapted for this tour, is available at your guide.

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