

## Pole of Cold — Detailed description

Trip Length: 9    Group: 1-8    Departure: Fixed    Period: December - January

### Trip overview

Would you like to feel the real cold – total, wide-reaching and full-scale? Then this tour is for you! This time BaikalNature propose to you to visit Oymyakon village – the pole of Cold. In this region there are the lowest temperatures near the earth surface all over the world. The average monthly temperatures of the January are -50°C, during the coldest winters they reach - 67°C. The lowest registered temperature was – 71,2°C. And it's not the Arctic and people live there all the year round.

After the two-days way by the Kolyma road, we will find ourselves in the middle of the winter wonderland, where the pure and severe beauty of the nature is side by side the kindness and hospitality of the local people.

We will know about the history of the region and the peculiarities of the Yakut nature that are understandable only for those who arrive to see them personally.

This tour is held in a format of expedition. Description of the itinerary presents only a common plan of the expedition. In case of any force majeure (such as bad weather conditions or any other unexpected and unpredictable events), the organizers reserve the right to make changes to the program.

### Highlights

- Magic landscape, frosty frozen and aurora borealis
- Traveling at the temperature below -55 ° C
- Visit of Oymyakon village - the coldest village in the world, known as pole of cold
- Trip through the permafrost regions
- Meeting with the indigenous people of Russia
- Visit of Gulag camps
- Excursion to the Lena Pillars
- The best hotel in Yakutsk in the heart of the city

### Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

### Difficulty

Moderate - 3-5 hours of physical activity daily

### Comfort

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

### Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Yakutsk, End of the tour: Yakutsk

### Program

#### Day 1 — Arrival to Yakutsk

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

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

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ИНН 3811110257 КПП 384901001 ОГРН 1073811003221 Р/с 40702810110000700937 в АО "ТИНЬКОФ БАНК"  
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13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Meeting with your guide in the hotel

15:00 — Discovery of Yakutsk

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Azimut Yakutsk, Standard twin room

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

## Day 2 — Khandyga and road of bones

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

10:00 — Departure to the Khandyga village

14:00 — Lunch in the cafe en route (Not included)

15:00 — Continuation of the road

19:00 — Homemade dinner

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in the homestay Khandyga, Bed in the homestay

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

## Day 3 — Road to the Pole of Cold

09:00 — Departure to the Tomtor village. GULAG camps

14:00 — Lunch in the café en route (Not included)

15:00 — Continuation of the road

19:00 — Arrival to Tomtor

20:00 — Homemade dinner

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in the homestay in Tomtor, Bed in the twin room

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, dry closet indoors, banya

## Day 4 — Oymyakon - Pole of Cold

08:00 — Breakfast at the homestay

09:00 — Departure to Oymyakon

13:00 — Lunch at a roadside café

14:00 — Discovery of the village

16:00 — Return to Tomtor

19:00 — Russian banya

20:00 — Dinner at the guest house

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in the homestay in Tomtor, Bed in the twin room

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, dry closet indoors, banya

## Day 5 — Culture and ethnography of Yakutia

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Excursion to the Ice Residence of Chyskhaan

13:00 — Lunch

15:00 — Excursion to the museum of the natural history

16:00 — Excursion to the GULAG Museum

19:00 — Dinner

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#### Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in the homestay in Tomtor, Bed in the twin room  
Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, dry closet indoors, banya

#### Day 6 — Acquaintance with the history of the Gulag

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Departure to Teply Kluch

13:00 — Lunch in the cafe (Not included)

14:00 — Continuation fo the road

19:00 — Arrival to Teply Kluch

20:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the homestay

#### Day 7 — Arrival to Yakutsk

11:00 — Transfer to Yakutsk

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Continuation of the road

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Azimut Yakutsk, Standard twin room  
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

#### Day 8 — Great rocks - Lena Pillars

07:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

09:00 — Excursion in the Lena Pillars Nature Park

13:00 — Lunch (lunch box)

19:00 — Festive dinner

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Azimut Yakutsk, Standard twin room  
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

#### Day 9 — End of the program

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

11:00 — Check-out from the hotel and transfer to the airport

#### Departures

| Start      | End        | Basic price per person |
|------------|------------|------------------------|
| 21.01.2024 | 29.01.2024 | 249100.00 RUB          |
| 16.02.2024 | 24.02.2024 | 249100.00 RUB          |

#### Note

The price given is for a group of 4 people. If there are less than 4 persons, the price of the tour will be recalculated. Maximum group size - 8 people. Take attention that in Yakutia the temperatures can be really low. Please, follow our check-list before the departure. All the not-included meals will be negotiated with the group members once on spot (additional charge). It's possible to book the plane tickets with us

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(additional expences). The itinerary of the tour can be changed according to the road or weather conditions as well as unforeseen events.

## What's included

### Price includes

- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Celebratory dinner with alcoholic beverages
- Letter of invitation
- Meals according to the program
- Accident insurance
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- English-speaking guide services

### Price does not include

- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- 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.

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

water bottle/flask

spray against mosquitoes and ticks (for summer outdoor tours)

thermal underwear

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Expedition pants

Thermal socks

Furry mitts (big enough for wearing the wool gloves under them)

Expedition winter boots (Sorel or Baffin)

Expedition down jacket (up to -50°)

Fleece Balaclava

## Meals

In the canteen at the inns, fresh local products.

Homestay cuisine based on fresh products.

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.

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

You should be physically fit enough for this tour.

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## 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

## 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.

## 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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