

In Search of the Northern Lights with Pavel Ageychenko — Detailed description

Trip Length: 4 Group: 4-6 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

Have you ever dreamed of visiting the Arctic? To see the Northern Lights, the vastness of the tundra, to feel the power of the Arctic Ocean at the far end of Russia? To try your hand at harnessing sled dogs? To meet the people of the north, the Saami, to discover its culture and taste its cuisine? Driving the snowmobile in the polar night or seeing the snow village? Did you think it was inaccessible, very expensive, or just for overtrained and over-equipped?

Well no ! With our trip "In Search of the Northern Lights" the dream of discovering the Arctic becomes reality. This program is the result of our presence for several years in the Kola Peninsula and as we believe, is a perfect mix to discover the Arctic.

This trip in the Kola Peninsula is suitable for families with children over 5 years old and does not represent any physical difficulty.

In winter 2021 - 2022 the trip will be guided by Pavel Ageychenko, the founder of BaikalNature, who will pass on to you his virus of the passion for the great outdoors of Russia!

During this trip to the Russian Arctic you will visit Murmansk, the largest city in the world located beyond the Arctic Circle. You will go all the way to the north, along the Barents Sea, to the village of Tériberka to realize all the beauty and grandeur of the North. You will take a snowmobile ride on the great mountain range of Khibiny, you will visit a snow village made up of labyrinths and ice sculptures; and you will take an outing in the snow-covered forest in sleds drawn by dogs, get acquaintance with reindeer. In addition, you will get to know the traditions and rites of the ancient Sami tribes and, of course, taste their local cuisine.

Here, in the middle of the Kola Peninsula, you will witness one of the most beautiful and mysterious natural phenomena: the aurora borealis. It is not possible to book nice weather or clear skies, but this trip in the middle of the polar night is perfectly suited to the search for the Aurora Borealis!

Do not miss the opportunity to get to know the world of the Arctic, its culture and its endless white expanses!

Highlights

- Best opportunity to observe the Aurora Borealis
- Visit of Tériberka by the Barents Sea
- Acquaintance with the culture and life of the Sami people
- Dog and reindeer sledding
- Tour of Murmansk, the largest city in the Arctic
- Itinerary accessible to families with children
- Visit of the largest snow complex in Russia - "Snow village"
- Snowmobile tour in the very heart of Khibiny mountains
- An opportunity not only to see and feed real reindeer

Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

Difficulty

Moderately Easy - 1-3 hours of physical activity daily

Comfort

Upgraded — all nights in comfortable rooms.

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 152163

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Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Murmansk, End of the tour: Kirovsk

Program

Day 1 — The edge of Russia - Teriberka

10:00 — Welcome to Murmansk
10:30 — Road to the edge of Russia
12:40 — Check-in
13:00 — Lunch with sea view (Not included)
14:00 — Discovery of Teriberka village
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
22:00 — Hunting for Northern lights
Overnight in the hotel
Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Cedar Grass, Standard twin without view
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 2 — The capital of Russian Arctic

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Journey back to Murmansk
13:00 — Lunch (Not included)
14:00 — Murmansk city-tour
16:00 — Excursion to the atomic icebreaker "Lenin"
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
22:00 — Search of the Northern lights
Overnight in the hotel
Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Glarus", Murmansk, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 3 — Towards to Khibiny Mountains

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel
10:00 — Transfer Murmansk - Kirovsk
12:00 — Accommodation at the tourist base near Apatity city
13:00 — Lunch at the base
14:00 — Start of snowmobiling tour along Khibiny
17:00 — Snowy village
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
20:00 — Russian banya
22:00 — Northern light hunting
Overnight at the base
Hotels: Accommodation at the tourist base Ogni of Imandra, Wooden house
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and shower on the floor

Day 4 — Dog-sledding and Sami reindeer herders

08:00 — Breakfast in the cafe of tourist base

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09:00 — Transfer to Husky-park
11:00 — Dog-sledding through the tundra
13:00 — Sami Lunch
15:00 — Return way to Murmansk
19:00 — Arrival at Murmansk airport. End of the programme.

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
07.01.2022	10.01.2022	62000.00 RUB
14.01.2022	17.01.2022	62000.00 RUB
20.01.2022	23.01.2022	62000.00 RUB

Note

Guaranteed departure for the group from 4 persons. If there are less participants, the price will be recalculated. Single supplement - 6100 roubles. Supplement for a room with a sea view -1 000 RUB (only in Teriberka village). It is possible to order a bath with a vat at the tourist base in Apatity - 11,000 rubles for a group of up to 5 people (the tour cost includes Russian banya without a vat). Please note that the appearance of the Aurora Borealis cannot be guaranteed and depends on the lightness of the sky and the solar activity at the time.

What's included

Price includes

- Dog sled rental
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Transfer from airport / railway station on first day
- Transfer to airport / railway station on last day
- Letter of invitation
- English-speaking guide services
- Meals according to the program

Price does not include

- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Airline tickets
- Medical insurance

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

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hood.

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

POLARTEC or similar pullover

Windproof waterproof pants and jacket (GORE-TEX, EVENT, SIMPA-TEX)

Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts

T-shirts

Socks

Comfortable shoes for city

Fleece jacket or warm sweater

Comfortable pants

Mountain boots for walking on ice and snow

Wool gloves and winter cap

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.

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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: +73952 26 56 94.

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

In Western Russia, you can contact BaikalNature by phone: +7 499 705 65 58

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 10058/21-49 from October 08, 2021. 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 30 days before departure - 15% of the tour price,
- 29 - 7 days before departure - 30% of the tour price,
- less than 7 days before departure - 50% of the tour price.

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.

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