

## Baikal Transit — Detailed description

Trip Length: 5    Group: 4-12    Departure: Fixed    Period: July - August

### Trip overview

This tour is an excellent opportunity to discover Lake Baikal for those who travel by the Trans-Siberian Railway and prefer not to pass the point of departure again. This route will make you explore the heart of Lake Baikal, Olkhon Island, Grand Baikal in its widest part, the largest gulf of the lake - Barguzinsky Gulf, the shoreline of Svyatoy Nos Peninsula, and the fishing village of Ust-Barguzin.

We will devote two days to explore Olkhon, the largest island of the lake, in order to get more deeply acquainted with it. When crossing the lake, we will sail in its largest and deepest part and you will be able to realize all the immensity and greatness of this Siberian Sea!

The road from Ust-Barguzin to Ulan-Ude, well-beaten track, follows in part the shore of the lake and then turns south towards the city through wild taiga. Many Buryat villages await us as we travel to the capital of Buryatia.

### Highlights

- Perfect travel option for those who take the Trans-Siberian
- Discovery of the largest island of Lake Baikal
- Crossing of the Baikal in its widest part
- Most get-to-know-local-people journey

### Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

### Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

### Comfort

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

### Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Irkutsk, End of the tour: Ulan-Ude

## Program

### Day 1 — First meeting with lake Baikal

09:00 — Departure for the Olkhon island

15:00 — Arrival to the Khuzhir village

19:00 — Dinner at your resort

Overnight at the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Shamanka, Twin room (economic)

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet and shower outdoors

### Day 2 — Olkhone - heart of the lake Baikal

09:00 — Breakfast at your resort

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10:00 — Free time

18:00 — Russian banya (Not included)

19:00 — Dinner at the resort

Overnight at the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Shamanka, Twin room (economic)

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet and shower outdoors

### Day 3 — Baikal crossing from the west to east

08:00 — Breakfast at your resort

09:00 — Transfer to the Khuzhir village berth

10:00 — Embarkation on board

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:30 — Arrival and transfer to the homestay

19:00 — Dinner

20:00 — Russian banya

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in Ust-Barguzin, Twin room

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

### Day 4 — Day in the Baikal village

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Day at leisure

13:00 — Lunch

18:00 — Russian banya

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in Ust-Barguzin, Twin room

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

### Day 5 — Ulan-Ude - capital of Buryatia

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Morning scheduled bus to Ulan-Ude

14:00 — Arrival to Ulan-Ude

### Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
15.07.2020	19.07.2020	32300.00 RUB
28.07.2020	01.08.2020	32300.00 RUB
05.08.2020	09.08.2020	32300.00 RUB
16.07.2021	20.07.2021	32500.00 RUB
21.07.2021	25.07.2021	32500.00 RUB
04.08.2021	08.08.2021	32500.00 RUB

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## Note

The guaranteed departure 4 participants. If there are less than 4 participants in the group, the price can be recalculated. For the individual groups from 4 participants, there are open departure dates. The price includes breakfast Day 2-5, lunch Day 4, dinner Day 1-4). Please, contact us for the information about the optional excursions. The bus transfers can be changed by the private cars.

## What's included

### Price includes

- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Accident insurance
- Letter of invitation
- Meals according to the program

### Price does not include

- Meals as per itinerary
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Optional activities

## 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

raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!

towel

wet wipes and antibacterial hand gel

water bottle/flask

spray against mosquitoes and ticks (for summer outdoor tours)

sleeping bag

winter (down) jacket and warm pants (windproof and waterproof) / winter suit

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)

fleece balaclava

2

10

12

13

14

19

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## 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.

## 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

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:

- 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,

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- 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 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.

### 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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