

Eastern Altai on Snowmobile — Detailed description

Trip Length: 4 Group: 4-8 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

Seven Karakolski lakes are located between 1820 and 2097 meters of altitude, characterize by each a unique color and link together by several canals and streams. You can't stay in the Altai without going to that spot. This Unesco world heritage site, will provide you the opportunity to discover the picturesque landscape from the Gorno-Altay region. With the help of our professional guides, this adventure throw the Eastern Altai will be unforgettable. After a snowmobile ride, enjoy good meals and a warm Russian wood-burning stove. It is preferable to have a drive experience, but that's not obligatory. Be ready to live an experience subject to changeable mountain weather which can be our allied or enemy. Don't be afraid and dare the adventure!

Highlights

- Discovery of the high-mountain lake Veronica
- Visit of the Karakokshinskaya cave
- Discovery of a wonderful panorama
- Driving the snowmobile
- Activities for everyone

Tour type

ACTIVENATURE

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: Gorno-Altaysk, End of the tour: Gorno-Altaysk

Program

Day 1 — Descent to the Karakolski Lakes

09:00 — Arrival to Gorno-Altaysk in the morning

10:00 — Transfer to the village Ulala

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Start of the route

17:00 — Arrival to the resort

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Karakolski lakes", Room for 4-6 persons

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

Day 2 — Karakokshinskaya cave

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09:00 — Breakfast
11:00 — Start of the route
13:00 — Lunch (picnic)
14:00 — Continuation of the itinerary
19:00 — Dinner
Overnight in the resort
Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Karakolski lakes", Room for 4-6 persons
Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

Day 3 — Discovery of Lake Veronica

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Radial ride to Veronica Lake
14:00 — Lunch
15:00 — Return to Karakolskie Lakes
19:00 — Dinner
Overnight in the resort
Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Karakolski lakes", Room for 4-6 persons
Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

Day 4 — Return to Barnaul

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Return to the village Ulala
13:00 — Lunch (picnic)
15:00 — Transfer to Barnaul

Departures

| Start | End | Basic price per person |
|------------|------------|------------------------|
| 04.12.2022 | 07.12.2022 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 18.12.2022 | 21.12.2022 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 30.12.2022 | 02.01.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 02.01.2023 | 05.01.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 15.01.2023 | 18.01.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 29.01.2023 | 01.02.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 12.02.2023 | 15.02.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 26.02.2023 | 01.03.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 12.03.2023 | 15.03.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |
| 24.03.2023 | 27.03.2023 | 55900.00 RUB |

Note

Guaranteed departure from 4 participants. Accommodation at the camp site "Karakol lakes" in a wooden house (outdoor WC, banya). The
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price is indicated for two persons per snowmobile. Single supplement for snowmobiling is 30 900 RUB. The snowmobile driving is allowed for tourists above 18 years old. According to the weather conditions the itinerary can be changed on the similar one (in km). If you want to extend your journey in Eastern Altai or book an extra night, please, let us know of your preferences.

What's included

Price includes

- Russian-speaking guide services
- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Snowmobile and equipment rental
- Meals according to the program

Price does not include

- English-speaking guide
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Optional activities

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.

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Recommended checklist

comfortable shoes for trekking

raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!

sunglasses

sunscreen and lip balm

towel

water bottle/flask

3

6

9

Meals

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

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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.

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:

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- 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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