

## Cruise To Olkhon — Detailed description

Trip Length: Group: 10-10 Departure: Fixed

### Trip overview

This cruise operate aboard two comfort-class cruise vessels, Tatyana and Sibiryak, and takes part of the following itinerary: Listvyanka – Circum-Baikal Railway – Peschanaya bay – Olkhon – Maloye More – Olkhon – Chivyrkuysky Gulf – Maloye More – Peschanaya bay – Circum-Baikal Railway – Listvyanka. In accordance with their point of departure or arrival, they may be preceded or followed by stays on Olkhon Island, in Listvyanka, and other places of Lake Baikal.

This particular cruise is a wonderful option for those travellers who wish to combine land itinerary and travel by water. You will leave Listvyanka, a village on Lake Baikal closest to Irkutsk, to discover the Circum-Baikal Railway that was part of the Trans-Siberian before the hydropower station was constructed in Irkutsk. You will go hiking in the amazing landscape of Peschanaya bay (Sandy bay) that will make you think of the Mediterranean. Sailing northwards, you will approach the rocks of Sagan-Zaba to discover rock paintings and finally reach Olkhon Island from where you may continue your journey.

Extension suggestions:

Before the cruise : old Circum-Baikal railway and Listvyanka village.

After the cruise: Olkhon Island, Ust-Barguzin and the Zabaikalsky National Park, Severobaikalsk.

### Highlights

- Discovery of scenic sites of Lake Baikal hardly accessible in summer
- Possibility to integrate the cruise with a land part of journey

### Tour type

NATURE

### Difficulty

Physical rating not assigned

### Comfort

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

### Program

Day 1 — -

Day 2 — -

Day 3 — -

Day 4 — -

### Departures

New departures available soon

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 31753

ООО «БайкалНейче» 664007, г. Иркутск, ул. Декабрьских Событий, 119А, офис 13

+7 499 705 65 58, +7 812 424 49 57, 8 800 555 73 54, факс: +7 3952 209 519  
ИНН 3811110257 КПП 384901001 ОГРН 1073811003221 Р/с 40702810132120001891 в Филиале ПАО «БАНК УРАЛСИБ»  
в г.Новосибирск БИК 045004725 Кор. Счет 30101810400000000725

 [baikalnature.com](https://www.baikalnature.com)

 +7 3952 26-56-94

## Note

The price is subject to change due to fuel costs. The trip is priced assuming accommodation in 4-berth cabin. Triple cabin supplement is 4000 RUB per person. Twin cabin supplement is 12000 RUB per person.

## What's included

### Price includes

- English-speaking guide services
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Meals
- Medical insurance
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Reserves and national parks entrance permissions
- Letter of invitation

### Price does not include

- Administrative registration
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Optional activities
- Transfers
- Airline tickets

## Checklist & Equipment

It is hot in summer at Lake Baikal area. Nevertheless, you should always have something to put on, as weather in Siberia is very changeable.

If you plan your trip in May or September, please feel free to bring your hat, gloves and windjacket in case of snow or rain.

June is also pretty cool.

July and August are the hottest months, which offer you temperatures of 25 ° - 35 ° at daytime and 15 ° - 18 ° at night. On the shores of Lake Baikal, like in the Alps, you should wear T-shirts and shorts in the sunny afternoons, sweaters and jackets in the cool evenings.

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

Raincoat or wind and waterproof shell jacket (with hood !)  
Universal AC power outlet  
POLARTEC or similar pullover  
Windproof waterproof pants and jacket (GORE-TEX, EVENT, SIMPA-TEX)  
Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts  
Shorts  
T-shirts  
Socks  
Cap or hat to protect against sun  
Foulard or tagelmust  
Comfortable walking shoes (like Vibram or similar)  
Comfortable shoes for city  
Headlamp  
Sunscreen for skin and lips  
Sunglasses with filter  
Toilet roll

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Pocket knife (to put in checked baggage)

Flask

Slippers

Sewing kit

Fleece jacket or warm sweater

Moisturizer

Lipstick

Swimsuit

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

Tick and mosquitoes repellent spray

Forceps for extracting ticks

Wipes

Wristwatch or pocket alarm clock

Binoculars

Charger and spare battery for camera/phone

Photo / video camera

Tour vouchers and programme

Ice cleats

Laundry detergent to wash your clothes

## Meals

Three meals a day on shipboard, cuisine, based on fresh products and caught fish.

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.

It is advisable to keep the following vaccines valid:

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- 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,
- adhesive plaster,
- sterile pads.

If you have individual diseases, make sure you have taken your medications.

### 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.

### 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

### 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.

### 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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